

# WEEKLY NEWS

Thursday, January 6, 2011

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**Dentist operating with no licence handed fine**

PAGE 2

**STAYING ACTIVE IS KEY FOR NORAH AT 105!**

PAGE 5



# Child porn man avoids jail term

BY JORDAN DAY

Email: editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk

A SCHOOL teacher caught with a vile stash of images of young girls has avoided a jail sentence.

Philip Scott, 44, was found with around 100 photographs and movies of under-age children when police raided his home in Black Horse Drove, Littleport, last January.

At Cambridge Crown Court in August, Scott pleaded guilty to five counts of possessing and five counts of making indecent photographs and films of children.

He also admitted two counts of possessing extreme pornography involving horses and dogs.

Scott was back before the city's Crown court on Tuesday where he was handed a suspended prison sentence.

The court heard how Scott, a former history teacher at Springwood High School, in King's Lynn, had 65 images of children at level one – regarded as the least serious.

## Teacher caught with images attempted suicide, court told

There were also five images at level two, one image at level three, two images at level four, plus one moving image at level one and five moving images at level two.

The most serious were two films at level four – the second-most extreme classification of child pornography.

The court also heard how Scott tried to commit suicide after police discovered the haul of images and films.

Tim Brown, prosecuting, said: "Lincolnshire police were made aware about activity on a certain website which involved the defendant's details.

"This information was then passed onto Cambridgeshire police, who organised a raid at Scott's home on January 28, 2010.

"The images and films were discovered on his computer and he was arrested at the scene."

Mr Brown added: "Scott tried to take his own life and wrote a letter to his partner, where he made partial admissions about the images.

"He admitted he wanted to take his own life and later took an

overdose of pills and alcohol, for which he was hospitalised."

Dylan Moses, mitigating, said: "My client has committed a crime and has shown genuine remorse for it.

"So ashamed was he that he tried to take his own life.

"He is now training to be a plumber and is hoping that he can become a positive member of the community again."

Judge Gareth Hawkesworth sentenced Scott to an eight-month prison sentence, suspended for two years.

He was also ordered to complete the internet sex offenders' programme, two years supervision and to register as a sex offender for 10 years.

Judge Hawkesworth said: "Your behaviour has directly contributed to the misery of children, namely under-age girls, who are forced into such conduct.

"It's also a real tragedy that you have squandered your own career by behaving in this way."

Scott has since been sacked as a teacher and has been given a life-long ban from working with anybody under the age of 16.



Suspended sentence: Philip Scott, of Littleport, leaves court after a hearing last August.

## INSIDE

### Hot idea

Plans unveiled for third solar farm project  
PAGE 3

### Street attack

Teenager admits to late-night stabbings  
PAGE 5

### Jailed

Woman stole £30k by fudging firm's figures  
PAGE 7

### Looking ahead

Mayor's wishes for 'challenging' 2011  
PAGE 20

## WHAT'S ON

### It's panto time

Join Jack for journey up the beanstalk  
PAGE 21

### On the box

All the weekend's viewing at a glance  
PAGE 24

## SPORT

### Greens' misery

Soham trounced by nine-goal leaders  
BACK PAGE

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# Marathon men work off festive excesses

**MOST** people spent Christmas enjoying a calorie overload. But four members of staff from the King's School Ely are already working off the majority of what they consumed.

Mark Hart, the school's operations director, Tom Kingsnorth, the head's PA, Andrew Wallis, health and safety officer, and sous chef Chris Woodfin have all been accepted for the London Marathon 2011.

Despite being more than four months away, the quartet are already training hard and can regularly be seen pounding the city's streets in preparation for the challenge on April 17.

Mr Kingsnorth, 31, is the

most experienced long distance athlete and coach.

Earlier this year he completed his toughest challenge yet when he was the second runner to cross the finish line of the Cotswold 100 – running 100 miles non-stop in 23 hours 22 minutes.

Mr Hart, 45, the oldest of the quartet, will be running in his sixth London Marathon and will be sponsored for Asthma UK.

Mr Kingsnorth said: "Training's going well and we're all looking forward to the event."

"I'm sure that on the day, especially as we approach the finishing line on The Mall, it's going to be quite an emotional experience."



In training: from left, Chris Woodfin, Andrew Wallis, Tom Kingsnorth and Mark Hart from the King's School Ely.

Picture: Richard Patterson 701311.

## Winter warners at real ale festival

REAL ale lovers are in for a treat this month.

The Ely and District branch of Camra will hold its second Elysian Winter Beer Festival in the city, at The Maltings, on Friday and Saturday, January 14 and 15.

Phil Wignall, organiser of the festival, said: "This year there will be a choice of more than 52 real ales, ciders and foreign beers."

"The range of real ales will be vast and will include some brand new micro-breweries, as well as beers from the north of England, the Midlands and, of course, East Anglia."

He added: "The range of ales, foreign beers and ciders on offer has been chosen to reflect the diverse array of tastes and styles of ales."

The festival will be open from noon-10pm on Friday and noon-8pm on Saturday. Hot food will be served on both days.

Alison Chaplin, a spokeswoman for the festival, said: "Come along and try some of the best regional real ales on offer. Even if you think you don't like real ale, please come along and give it a try, we have something for everyone."

"This promises to be a right winter warmer of a beer festival and we look forward to seeing you there."

Entry is free to Camra members and £1 for non-members.

## Court date set for assault case

A 27-YEAR-OLD man accused of assault is to stand trial at court. Alex Hughes, of Fishers Bank, Littleport, is charged with assault. The offence is alleged to have happened in Littleport on December 3.

Hughes appeared at Ely Magistrates' Court last Thursday, where he pleaded not guilty to the charge.

He will stand trial at the city's court on February 17.

Hughes was released on conditional bail not to visit the Plough and Harrow pub in Littleport and not to contact the victim directly or indirectly.

## Man, 26, suffers head injury in fall

A MAN was rushed to hospital after suffering a severe head injury at his home.

The air ambulance and emergency services were called to an address in March after a 26-year-old man fell at his home.

The incident happened at around 10am on New Year's Day.

The man was anaesthetised at the scene and given pre-hospital critical care by paramedics before being taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, by land ambulance.

He is described as being in a serious but stable condition.

## Historian talks on changing city

HISTORIAN Pam Blakeman will be leading a talk in Ely tonight. Entitled 'Ely Changes!', the lecture will be held at Ely Museum at 7.30pm.

Entry is £1.50 for museum members, £2 for non-members and all are welcome.

# Dentist operating with no licence handed fine

AN Ely dentist faces an uncertain future after he was convicted of practising without registration.

Edward Gray worked for seven months at the 1A Dental Practice, in St Mary's Street, Ely, without proper insurance after his registration with the General Dental Council (GDC) lapsed, Cambridge Magistrates' Court was told.

The court heard how Gray, 63, had failed to do enough training, study or educational activities, which caused his professional registration to lapse in November last year.

It meant his patients were not covered by the GDC's insurance policy between November 2009 and June last year, although there were no complaints about Mr Gray's work.

Under the continuing professional development (CPD) system, dentists must complete 250 hours of set learning

BY JACK GROVE

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activities within a five-year cycle to ensure their skills remain up-to-date.

Mr Gray, a dentist of 38 years, failed to ensure his CPD points had been approved and that his registration was valid.

Adam Wagner, mitigating, said the lapse had been caused by an administrative error and he had twice phoned the GDC to check on his registration.

Mr Wagner said: "Throughout his 38-year career as a dentist, he has taken enormous pride in his work. He is devastated by being in this position. He feels he has let down his patients, his profession and his family."

"There is no evidence that there was any harm to his patients or his treatment was anything but excellent."

He added: "His mistakes have had profound consequences. He has been unable

to work for six months. He has suffered the humiliation of being a dentist unable to practise and his income has been reduced to £1,000 a month, with outgoings of £3,000 a month.

It is unclear whether he will be able to practise dentistry in his chosen field. There is also an element of double jeopardy here as he has already faced a GDC panel."

Mr Wagner said the 1A practice had offered to take Gray, of Norwich, back if he was able to re-register with the GDC.

Magistrates fined him £650 and ordered him to pay GDC costs of £1,124.

Claire Lewis, chairman of the bench, said: "We accept there will be ongoing consequences for you considering how the GDC proceed with this matter."

"We have to balance that with the risk you put patients at, given you were not indemnified."

## New year starts with MBE honours

AN ELY woman's efforts to support past and present armed services personnel and their families has been recognised in the New Year's Honours list.

Judith Borland, who supports the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association, was made an MBE.

Mrs Borland said:

"I am thrilled. You could have knocked me down with a feather."

An MBE also goes to Howard Crabb, from Ely, production manager for Marshall Aerospace.

Mr Crabb, 55, who has worked for the company for 37 years, is honoured for his work in the aviation industry.

He said: "I'm over-

whelmed – I love my job and its challenges, and I'm very much looking forward to receiving the award."

Sir Michael Marshall, Marshall's chairman and chief executive, said: "He is an exceptional manager, who also devotes much of his spare time to charitable and community work."



'Thrilled': Judith Borland.

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## Fatal crash closes road

A MOTORIST died after a crash involving two cars on a rural road on Tuesday night.

The man was killed on the A1123 between Stretham and Wicken, in an accident which saw one vehicle career into a ditch.

The road was closed while police launched an investigation and attempted to recover the cars involved, a silver Ford Mondeo and a silver Peugeot 206.

Another man involved in the accident suffered leg injuries, but his condition was not thought to be serious.

The accident happened shortly before 5.40pm.



Grand tour: walkers on the historical guided tour of Ely pose for a photo outside Oliver Cromwell's House.

Picture: Keith Heppell 703445.

## Historic adventures burn off Christmas calories on walks

**SPRIGHTLY** souls were able to burn off some festive calories while learning more about the architecture around them.

Ely's Tourist Information Centre, based at Oliver Cromwell's House, organised a guided walk around the city on

New Year's Eve.

With an architectural theme, and some detailed information on how Ely's buildings have changed over the decades, participants learned a host of fascinating facts about the city. The walk was one of more

than half a dozen guided tours held in Ely over the festive season – all of them aimed to get people out into the fresh air and explore what's around them.

Tracey Harding, tourism and town centres team leader at

East Cambridgeshire District Council, said: "For anyone who wanted to work off a little of their festive indulgences, escape the sales or simply get out of the house then our guided walks were the perfect answer.

"2010 has been a great year

for our tours, with the vast majority selling out within days of going on sale. We hope people continue to enjoy them for years to come."

For more information, call (01353) 662062 or go to [www.visitely.org.uk](http://www.visitely.org.uk)

## Call for ideas on station works

PEOPLE who use Ely Railway Station are being urged to give their views about how the station should be developed in the future.

From Saturday to Tuesday, January 18, anyone travelling from the station can take part in a study looking at different ideas for how the area can be developed.

The results of questionnaires, which will be handed out during various times of the day, will feed into East Cambridgeshire District Council's plans for future growth.

Questions will include everything from how existing facilities at the station can be enhanced to how the station's appearance can be improved.

The survey is being conducted on behalf of the district council, Cambridgeshire County Council, National Express East Anglia and Network Rail.

To complete the survey online, visit [www.elystationsurvey.co.uk](http://www.elystationsurvey.co.uk)

# Plans for third solar farm site

BY JORDAN DAY

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## Project would be region's biggest

PLANS for a third solar energy farm in Cambridgeshire have been put forward.

Just months after schemes to build solar electricity farms in Wilburton and Bourn were announced, fresh proposals to build one in Chittering, between Ely and Waterbeach, have been unveiled.

Cambridgeshire-based firm Abbey Renewables, the company behind the proposed solar farm for Wilburton, wants to build the 17-hectare farm on land east of the village at Radical Farm.

The multi-million-pound plans have been revealed ahead of a formal planning application being submitted in the spring.

If approved, the five megawatt solar farm would provide renewable electricity for hundreds of homes.

The farm's solar panels would also cut tens of thousands of tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions over a 25-year period.

Access to the farm would be from the A10.

In the submission, the company says: "These proposals are compliant with policies and will not have an adverse impact on the landscape character or residential amenity."

"The site has been carefully selected to be as unobtrusive as possible, and can be effectively screened from view.

"There are positive benefits arising from a renewable energy project such as this, as it will raise the profile of renewable energy in the local population.

"Overall, we are of the view that

the proposals comply with planning policy and represent a necessary step towards meeting the UK's climate change obligations."

In the autumn, German-owned firm Vogt Solar put forward plans to build a 30-acre solar energy farm north of Bourn.

Weeks later, Abbey Renewables announced plans to build a 35-acre solar electricity farm at Mingay Farm on Twenty Pence Road, Wilburton.

Decisions are yet to be made on both schemes.

If approved, the farm in Wilburton would be East Anglia's biggest solar energy farm.

■ **What do you think? Are you in favour of solar farms or are there better renewable energy alternatives?** Write to [editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk)

## Pensioner falls from ladder while storing decorations

A PENSIONER was rushed to hospital after falling from a ladder.

The 75-year-old man was putting his Christmas

decorations in the loft when he fell from the ladder and injured his head.

The incident happened

at a house in Chatteris at 12.39pm on Monday.

The air ambulance and emergency services were called and the man was

taken to Hinchingsbrooke Hospital, Huntingdon, by land ambulance. His condition is not believed to be serious.

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# Boundary changes plan

PART of South East Cambridgeshire could be linked with St Ives as part of new Government proposals.

The coalition Government has announced it wants to reduce the number of MPs in the UK in order to create equal-sized constituencies.

If the controversial plans get the go-ahead, the Electoral Reform Society says the current South East Cambridgeshire constituency would have to be re-drawn.

It could see an Ely and St Ives voting area of 79,424

electors being formed, which would see residents in Ely, Sutton, Haddenham and Isleham being represented by the same MP as Fenstanton, St Ives and Manea.

The remaining parts of the constituency would be in a Cottenham and Waterbeach ward made up of 81,309 voters.

Soham could be split in two – with Soham North represented by one MP and Soham South represented by another.

South East Cambridgeshire MP Jim Paice said he had not yet seen the proposed changes.

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Settling in for winter: visitors flocked to Welney last weekend to take in tours of the wetlands and watch the feeding of the swans.

Pictures (clockwise from top): Duncan Lamont 703695/703685/703689.

## Nature lovers spread their wings at fen reserve

WILDLIFE lovers got their New Year off to a nature-friendly start at the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust in Welney.

Families flocked to the reserve over the weekend for a whole host of activities. There were tours and the usual swan feeds, enabling

visitors to get up close to all sorts of birds spending their winter on the reserve's lagoons.

Bird watchers were also given the chance to start their 2011 bird list, where they took part in a competition to tick off as many species they could spy as possible.

A spokeswoman for the reserve said: "The new year is the perfect chance to get out into the countryside and witness the magical wildlife spectacles nature has to offer. It was fantastic to see so many families doing just that over the weekend."

For more information about the reserve, visit [www.wwt.org.uk/welney](http://www.wwt.org.uk/welney)



# Gardeners' sorrow over Bloom break

GREEN-FINGERED residents have expressed disappointment at learning Ely will not take part in Anglia in Bloom this year.

The city council's Ely in Bloom Committee has announced the city will not be entering the prestigious competition this summer. Committee members insist taking a break in 2011 will be "beneficial".

It comes after the city scooped silver gilt awards two years in a row.

However, the news has upset some residents.

Beryl McKormick, of West Fen Road, Ely, said: "I think it's such a shame. Every year the city looks so bright and colourful in a bid to win the ultimate gold award.

"Just because we were one away again in 2010 I don't think we should have a break in 2011. We need the city to look

BY JORDAN DAY

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attractive all the time for both residents and visitors."

Another resident, Jeremy Goodchild, of Cambridge Road, Ely, said: "I hope every effort is still made to make Ely look pretty.

"I think the decision not to take part in 2011 will be one the committee may regret. At the end of the day, we were so close to winning gold and we could have nailed it this year.

"I understand it's hard work but it all helps to make our city look even more beautiful and it also brings the local community together.

"I think a lot of people, like me, are disappointed."

However, the committee is reassuring

residents that planting will be carried out "as normal".

A spokeswoman for the city council said: "At a recent Ely in Bloom meeting, the committee discussed the 2010 judge's feedback and after much deliberation, the committee decided that a break from the competition would be beneficial.

"Planting by the committee and other local community groups will be carried out as normal."

The spokeswoman added: "Members of the committee are constantly looking at ways to improve the floral displays in Ely and this work will continue.

"For 2011, local horticultural competitions will take place, hopefully involving the community more than ever.

"Ideas are still being worked on but all will be revealed some time after the new year."

# Active outlook is just the job for Norah, 105

A COMMUNITY-spirited woman and former county councillor is loving life at 105.

Norah Bedford, who was born in Bluntisham, near Huntingdon, says the secret to living such a long and fulfilling life is to lead an active lifestyle.

The sprightly pensioner celebrated the major milestone last Monday at a tea party with her family and friends.

Mrs Bedford is an only-child and was born as Norah Pratt in 1905 when her parents, John and Norah Pratt, ran the village shop in Bluntisham.

Her mother died of consumption when Mrs Bedford was just 2 years old and her father and mother's sister, Mary Izzard, brought her up.

In 1930, Mrs Bedford married her husband, Cyril, a farmer from Earith, who she met while ice skating on flooded fenland.

That year they moved to Braham Farm on Cambridge Road, Ely, where they remained until 1964.

Mr Bedford continued farming and she managed the farm's books.

Together they had two sons – John and Dennis.

John currently lives with his family at Manor Farm, Witchford, and but sadly Dennis died around eight years ago.

John told how his father, Cyril, died around 15 years ago.

He said: "They were a very busy couple, always doing things together.

"After the war they loved to travel and were really into their caravanning.

"Mum also played quite a big part in the local community, especially in Little Thetford, close to where they lived."

Mrs Bedford, who has six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren, was a governor at many primary schools in the Ely area and was a lay member for the Diocese of Ely.

She was also a dedicated WI member and was president of Little Thetford WI and the Isle of Ely WI.

Mrs Bedford was a founder member of Little Thetford Social Club and a parish councillor and county councillor for Stretham.

John, said: "Mum just loved helping others and being part of village life – she was never big-headed about it but just loved to make a difference."

Mrs Bedford moved to The Old Vicarage care home in Littleport three years ago. In the past, she enjoyed needlework, tapestry, knitting and painting.

Mrs Bedford said: "I've never smoked, I've never really drunk and I've always tried to be as active as I can. I've done quite well really – seeing as I'm 105!"



Many happy returns: Norah Bedford was a parish and county councillor. Picture: Keith Heppell 702826.

# Teenager admits to late-night stabbings

A TEENAGER has admitted stabbing three people outside a city centre pub.

The 17-year-old, who cannot be named for legal reasons, is from Ely but has been living in London since the incident.

The stabbing happened outside the Townhouse pub and Balti King takeaway in Ely's Market Street in the early hours of July 10 last year.

Cambridge Magistrates' Court heard that 19-year-old Liam Boyd was stabbed three times – once in his chest, once in his abdomen and again in his thumb.

Leigh Meads, 25, suffered a puncture wound to the right side of his ribcage. Both were taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital, where they required emergency surgery.

Another victim, 18-year-old Michael Setchell, was also stabbed in the back by the teenager and was treated by paramedics at the scene.

The defendant appeared at court last week where he

BY JORDAN DAY

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pleaded guilty to two charges of causing grievous bodily harm without intent. He also admitted being in possession of a weapon.

The attack on Mr Setchell was taken into account by magistrates at the defendant's request.

Penny Cannon, prosecuting, said: "This incident happened at around 1.15am, and it's clear all parties had been drinking.

"All three victims were outside the Balti King takeaway when they were approached by the defendant.

"He asked them whether they knew a certain male in the city, to which they said they did."

The court heard how as the group walked away from the takeaway, the teenager and another male followed them.

Mrs Cannon said: "Mr Setchell felt what he thought was a punch to the back.

"It wasn't until he saw

the blood that he realised he had been stabbed."

Mr Boyd then confronted them both after seeing what had happened to Mr Setchell.

Mrs Cannon told the court: "The defendant thrust the knife towards Mr Boyd, stabbing him three times in separate places. The defendant and his friend then ran away towards the Townhouse.

"Mr Meads chased after them as he didn't want them to get away with it.

"He kicked the defendant to the floor and saw the knife in his hand. He hit the defendant but he too was then stabbed in his ribcage."

Christina Metcalfe, mitigating, explained how her client had "very foolishly" taken a knife out with him "to protect himself" after being aware of tension between certain groups in the city.

The case was adjourned for pre-sentence reports and the teenager will be back before the bench on January 19.

The teen was released on conditional bail.

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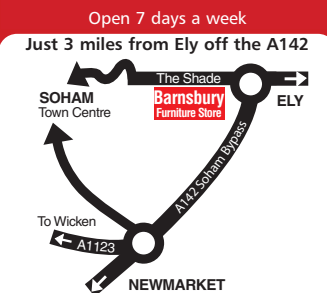
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# WEEKLY NEWS LETTERS

Send your letters to: The Editor, Ely Weekly News, 27 Market Place, Ely, CB7 4NP or by email to editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk

## Sell land on open market

Sir, All of our councils are said to be short of money. Cambridgeshire County Council has 24 acres of arable farm land for sale at Reach. This is good land and it is known to be productive and valuable. I hear that the National Trust wants to purchase this land to add to the thousands of acres that it is presently letting go to rack and ruin for its so-called 'Wicken Vision'.

It appears that a selling price for this land has been set by two firms of valuers and if the trust does not complete the purchase at this price, the land may then be sold on the open market. I understand that the county council has given the trust a 12-month window to raise sufficient funds for the purchase. We don't know what the price is or if a deposit has already been paid or if the trust has preferentially been given 12 months to pay.

I hear from my county councillor, David Brown, of Burwell, that the land is being sold "under current county council policy".

I think that the county council, in order to make as much money as possible on behalf of council tax payers, ought to have a policy of selling this land openly.

If the two firms of valuers have made the same mess with this land as valuers did when another local farm – the 103-acre Hurdle Hall, also at Reach, which was practically given to the trust for £300,000 – then the county council will have let council tax payers down and done yet another scandalous deal with the trust. I submit that no valuers can know what such good land is truly worth to, say, a local farming family, without the land having been marketed openly. I am amazed that the county council is not marketing the land openly.

As is known, I am not inexperienced in these matters and I have now heard more than enough about cosy deals done that benefit the county council.

The current county council policy, certainly so far as it affects such land sales to the National Trust, must be changed. Now, before it is too late.

**Geoffrey Woollard**  
Chapel Farm  
Upware

## Act changes offer support

Sir, As a supporter of the National Autistic Society (NAS) living in the area, I wanted to make other local people affected by autism aware that the statutory guidance for the Autism Act 2009 was published on December 17. This is a landmark victory following three years of campaigning by the NAS and their supporters.

This guidance sends a clear message to all local authorities and local NHS trusts telling them to ensure they are meeting the needs of people with autism. Now this has been introduced, people can start

## MEMORIES



■ THIS week's picture, taken from our archives, shows someone paying to enter a famous landmark. Do you recognise anyone in the picture or know what the event was? Do you know where and when it was taken? Send your answers to: **Memories, Ely Weekly News, 27 Market Place, Ely, CB7 4NP** by Tuesday morning, or email editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk

Picture: 656501

The last Memories photograph, from our archives, showed crowds gathered for the Ely Christmas lights switch-on. It was taken in December, 1989.

Picture: 701590.



campaigning locally to make sure that the lives of people with autism are improved.

I urge people to take action now by contacting their local director of adult social care services and asking when they can expect reforms to happen. This can be done directly through the NAS website by visiting [www.autism.org.uk/dhguidance](http://www.autism.org.uk/dhguidance)

**Millie Turner**  
Astley Close  
Sutton

## New leisure site goes for gold

Sir, At last it looks as if Ely will have a new swimming pool, and all the other sports and leisure facilities to go with it in the near future (Plans go in for new leisure site – *Weekly News*, December 23). That's great news – at least some councillors can see the way ahead, and who knows, we might have someone from Ely representing the country at the next Olympics.

In the past, Ely has produced some fine athletes – in cycling, football, boxing – so with up-to-date facilities we could make it. But no doubt some councillors will pooh-pooh the idea that Ely athletes can make it to top.

I ask all Ely people to back this plan and encourage our youngsters to get to the top of the tree. I only wish I was 60 years younger, with all this coming to Ely.

**Eddie Holden**  
Ely Road  
Little Downham

## Not helping their cause

Sir, Regarding the London student demonstrations, clearly this kind of demonstration is wrong on three counts.

Firstly it's unfair in that most of us get just one vote, and because of work, family commitments, or age are unable to take part in public demonstrations to further influence our elected

representatives when legislation is proposed that adversely affects ourselves.

Secondly, it is bordering on being illegal in that the organisers were fully aware that their march in central London would be costly to police, would attract extremists who would then cause criminal damage to property, and threaten the lives of our police officers and members of the public.

Thirdly, that it impeded the ordinary members of the public going about their lawful business on the streets of London.

I know that many of our more intellectually mature students are aware that such demonstrations alienate the public and reduce still further any sympathy we once had for their situation.

**Frank Lindsell**  
St Johns Road  
Ely

### LETTERS POLICY

Letters should arrive by noon on the Monday before publication. Full name and address must be supplied and details will be withheld only in exceptional circumstances. Letters should be no longer than 250 words and may be edited.

Please email your letters to editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk

Alternatively write to: Letters to the Editor, Ely Weekly News, 27 Market Place, Ely, CB7 4NP.

# Woman took £30k by fudging figures

A WOMAN who stole almost £30,000 from her employers has been jailed.

Susan Leach, 49, had been an accounts assistant at Ely-based firm G & J Peck for 10 years.

In September, bosses at the firm, which supplies agricultural machinery across the country, told Leach she was going to be made redundant.

Just days later, Leach, of Buckthorn, off Clayway, Ely, went to her boss Ian Loversidge and admitted she had been siphoning money from the business's accounts.

She appeared at Ely Magistrates' Court in November, where she admitted a charge of fraud by abuse of position between January 1, 2009 and October 1, 2010.

Leach was sent to Cambridge Crown Court for sentencing and was jailed for nine months.

In an earlier hearing, magistrates heard how Leach stole a total of £29,919 during the 22-month period, during

BY JORDAN DAY

Email: editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk

which her responsibilities included banking and managing the company's accounts.

Paul Brown, prosecuting, said: "In September, Leach was told she was going to be placed under a redundancy notice.

"On the morning of September 29, she went into Mr Loversidge's office and admitted she had been taking money from the firm's accounts.

"Leach was arrested and, in a police interview, told officers that at first she took between £100 and £500 at a time from petty cash.

"But she then became more sophisticated and set up her own dummy account with the firm, where she could take money from customers for herself and then manipulate the figures."

Mr Brown added: "What Leach did was an enormous breach of trust and, in total, she took almost £30,000."



## Wine man in high spirits

A NEW specialist wine and spirits shop has opened its doors in Ely. Sanket Patel, from Cambridge, has opened the business in the former Karen Lesley store.

Anglia Wine Merchants boasts more than 300 wine labels and over 500 types of wines, champagnes and scotches.

Mr Patel said: "Whilst

travelling in Europe, Eastern Europe and many other countries, I got to visit so many vineyards and really learn about the whole winemaking process.

"That's what has inspired me to open my own wine shop.

"I definitely think Ely was the right choice as the city does lack a decent wine specialist."

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youth theatre

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The Brook  
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Tel: Georgina 01354 694234

#### Soham

Pavilion, Recreation Ground  
5.30 & 7.30pm  
Tel: Diane 01353 723381

### TUESDAY

#### Littleport

Leisure Centre, Camel Road  
9.30am & 6.00 & 7.30pm  
Tel: Sharon 01353 861499

### Ely

Paradise Sports Centre  
5.30 & 7.30pm  
Tel: Susie 07704 842504

### Newmarket

Ditton Lodge First School, St Johns Avenue  
5.45 & 7.45pm  
Tel: Sarah 01638 604947

### WEDNESDAY

### Ely

Paradise Sports Centre  
9.30am  
Tel: Susie 07704 842504

### Ely

Deans, Newnham Street  
6.00pm  
Tel: Diane 01353 723381

### Newmarket

The Rutland Arms Hotel  
5.30 & 7.30pm  
Tel: Natalie 01638 551964

### THURSDAY

### Swaffham Prior

Village Hall  
5.30 & 7.00pm  
Tel: Sharon 01353 861499

### Newmarket

Our Lady & St Etheldreda Catholic Church,  
Exeter Road  
9.30am  
Tel: Sarah 01638 604947

### Haddenham

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## Family Announcements

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### Deaths Acknowledgements In Memoriam

**BILTON.** Simon Thomas, dearly loved son of Graham and Yvonne, adored by his sister Nicola and all the family and friends that had the pleasure of knowing such a special unique young man. Taken from us so suddenly on Tuesday, December 21st, 2010, at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, aged 23 years. Funeral arrangements to be confirmed at a later date. Family flowers only but donations for our chosen charities would be gratefully accepted. For further information please contact Richard Stebbings Funeral Service Ltd. Tel: 01223 232309.

**SETCHELL.** Phyl would like to thank everyone for the many cards, letters and messages of sympathy received following her recent sad loss. Thank you to all who attended the service at Cambridge City Crematorium and at Holy Trinity Church, Haddenham, also for donations given in memory of Les. A special thank you to my godchildren and many friends for their support. Please accept this as the only most sincere acknowledgement.

**BRENNER.** May, 6th May, 1921 - 4th, January, 2010, In Loving Memory.

Place your Family Announcement with your local Newspaper by telephoning 01353 667916 or call into 27 Market Place, Ely

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**HAWKINS.** Glenn, passed away suddenly on holiday in Scotland on Monday, December 27th, 2010, aged 69 years. Dearly loved husband of Chris, much loved dad to Karen and Kim, devoted grandad to Gemma and Kelly, he will be sadly missed. Funeral service in the West Chapel, Cambridge City Crematorium, on Friday, January, 14th, at 1.30pm. No flowers please, donations for the British Heart Foundation would be appreciated and may be sent c/o Harry Williams & Sons, 83 Victoria Road, Cambridge. CB4 3BS.

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

Email your Community News to [editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk)

**Ely**  
MORE than 150 residents came together to take part in Sanctuary Hereward's 12th annual Christmas Carol Service last month.

The service was led by The Reverend Alan Hulme at St Mary's Church in Ely.

Sanctuary staff and residents were joined by young children from nearby St John's Primary School who added to the atmosphere by singing renditions of their favourite carols.

Sanctuary, who provided residents with free transport to and from the church, laid on mulled wine and mince pies at the end of the service.

Emonn Dillon, regional director for Sanctuary East, said: "To see the residents interacting with the children and enjoying themselves shows that this event is more than just a carol service, it is a chance for different generations of the community to come together and learn from each other."

### Soham

ON Wednesday, December 15, members of the Phoenix club met at The Rosary in Exning for their Christmas lunch. They will meet again on February 9 and the speaker will be Peter Carter. The venue for the meeting is to be confirmed and all members will be notified as soon as possible.

Members and friends of the Over 60s club joined other groups and clubs at The Brook for Christmas lunch. Following lunch, the afternoon's entertainment was provided by Lee Murfit who played music for dancing and the singing of carols.

On Friday afternoon members enjoyed a nativity play. Dianne Wheeling welcomed everyone and read the introduction to *Reason for the Season*, a



Hats off: Richard Halsall, president of the Rotary Club of Ely, joins fellow members for Christmas lunch. The club's fundraising activities have assisted local charities as well as victims of the Pakistan flood disaster.

## Rotarians say thanks for bumper charity fund

FESTIVE celebrations have helped the Rotary Club of Ely raise more than £6,000 for local charities.

The club held its hugely popular Christmas collection throughout the city last month. Families in almost every street were visited by Santa on his sleigh and the collection raised a

bumper £6,647.

A spokesman for the club said: "We would like to say thank you to the people of Ely for their generous donations, which will go towards local charities."

"A thank-you must also be given to the helpers - the Rotary Club of Ely-Hereward, Ely Inner Wheel,

and the Lions Clubs, who will share in the proceeds."

In the last six months, the club has donated £3,765 to local charities. An additional £793 has also been given to help victims of the Pakistan floods.

For more information about the club, visit [www.elyrotary.co.uk](http://www.elyrotary.co.uk).

play in verse. The narrator was Yvonne Long and taking part were Ruth Ginn (Mary), George Ginn (Joseph), Eileen Pick (angel), Margaret Palmer, Sheila Knight and Maureen Pitt (kings), and Ann Willet, Betty Mutton and Barbara Reed (shepherds).

Soloist Gwen Bridgeman was joined by pianist Greta Randal for duets. Members joined in the singing of the carols. Dianne Wheeling brought the story to a close and thanked everyone for taking part. Mince pies and tea were served by the ladies. Everyone was wished a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. The next meeting is on Friday, January

14, at 2pm. Members of the Scrabble Club met in the library on Thursday afternoon. The group will continue to meet in the library in the new year and the first dates are Thursday, January 13, and Thursday, January 20, at 2.30pm. New members will be very welcome.

On Thursday evening, the Community Choir joined the Soham Village College choir for the carol service in Ely Cathedral. Conducted by Stephen Kenna and joined by soloist Brian Graham, they sang *Have Yourself a Merry Christmas* and *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*. Later in the programme

they joined with the school choirs and Brian in a rousing rendition of *Winter Wonderland*. The pianist was Jane Holden. A memorable evening - thanks are extended to Stephen Kenna for bringing the choir together and members look forward to meeting in 2011.

### Littleport

A TECHNICIAN from Littleport has reached the finals of a prestigious competition.

Kevin Palmer, who works at Thurlow Nunn Standen, came runner-up in the AGCO Fendt Technician of the Year award, held at the University

of Warwick. Mr Palmer, who works in the company's service department, said: "To be recognised among my peers was a real honour. "The awards event was a really fantastic evening - but I'm much more at home under the bonnet of a tractor!"

Richard Pipe, parts and service director at Thurlow Nunn Standen, added: "There are more than 1,300 AGCO technicians in the UK, so Kevin reaching the finals and being recognised for all his hard work is wonderful. "Kevin is not someone to blow his own trumpet but we are extremely proud of his achievement."

# Tributes to former bishop



Visit: Bishop Peter Walker with the Queen in 1987.

A FORMER Bishop of Ely has died aged 92.

The Right Reverend Dr Peter Knight Walker, who was Bishop of Ely from 1977-89, died on December 28, after a brief illness, in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

John Beer, the Archdeacon of Cambridge, described Bishop Peter as an "outstanding" man.

He said: "Bishop Peter was an outstanding priest, scholar, principal of Westcott House, Cambridge, and bishop.

"During his long retirement he faithfully maintained his ministry of pastoral remembrance through letter writing and personal contact. He will be greatly missed."

Bishop Peter was born on December 6, 1919 and was educated at Leeds Grammar School and The Queen's College, Oxford.

BY JORDAN DAY  
Email: [editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk)

He served in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve during the Second World War. Bishop Peter was made deacon in 1953 and was ordained priest the next year.

His first parish post was a curacy at Hemel Hempstead after which he became fellow, dean and lecturer at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

In 1962 he was appointed principal of Westcott House, Cambridge. He was consecrated bishop and appointed Suffragan Bishop of Dorchester in 1972.

In 1977 he was moved to Ely - a post he held until his retirement.

Bishop Peter's funeral will be on Tuesday, at 2.30pm in Grantchester Parish Church. A memorial service will be held in the spring.



# Festive cheer fills market square

FESTIVE cheer filled Ely when a Christmas market came to town.

Stallholders had everything from fresh produce to handmade jewellery on offer, plus there was seasonal music and festive activities for families to enjoy.

Tracey Harding, team leader for tourism and town centre services at East Cambridgeshire District Council, said: "Trade on Ely markets has been building up as Christmas approaches.

"It was good to see the Christmas spirit is alive and well in the city as people looked to buy gifts and food from a place which they can trust."



Christmas spirit: Monique Harris, from Littleport, sells holly wreaths. Picture: Keith Jones 702609.

# Parents warned over net pervert

AN online pervert is attempting to groom children by posing as their new classmate on Facebook, police have revealed.

Cambridgeshire police have discovered a mystery paedophile has been contacting youngsters from the Ely and Soham area via the popular social networking site.

The sex pest created a series of fake profiles on the site to issue 'friend requests' to pupils at the City of Ely Community College and students in Soham.

Hundreds of warning letters have been sent to parents of children at the community college urging them to take "extra

BY JORDAN DAY

Email: [editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk)

precautions".

The man then encouraged his victims, who are aged between 11 and 18, to switch on their webcams by pretending to be starting at the college next term.

A police spokesman said: "We have received several reports regarding concerns over adults purporting to be children on social networking websites. We are investigating these incidents.

"I would urge people to be vigilant when using such sites and parents should monitor their children's internet usage."

Police did not say how many children had been

targeted.

Catherine Jenkinson-Dix, principal of the City of Ely Community College, wrote a warning letter to parents.

She wrote: "The man has targeted children from two secondary schools, trying to befriend them by saying he is starting at the school in January and is looking to make new friends. He has tried to gain personal information and has got some children to use their webcams."

■ **What do you think? Do you try to limit what your children can see on the internet or what sites they have access to? Have you banned them from using social networking sites for their own protection. Write to [editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk)**

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# MORE THAN BEDS

## GREAT WINTER SALE NOW ON

# Making sweet dreams for you

IT'S almost 20 years since More Than Beds & Anglia Mobility opened their shop in Ely, allowing hundreds of happy customers to sleep easily at night.

The family-run business consists of a five-person team (all called Peter!) and was set up by owner Peter Morgan, who also owns a mobility shop in Bedford and has a long history of selling beds.

Visit their newly refurbished show room, with its deceptively small entrance which opens up like an

### ADVERTISING FEATURE

Aladdin's cave of almost 30 display beds, and experience the team's excellent customer services. As a further incentive, the store will be holding all of its sale prices until the end of January, so you're sure to pick up a bargain.

Manager Peter Grodde believes the strongest sales technique is good word of mouth, and says the company will go out of its way to keep customers happy: "We make

sure we solve every problem, whether it's fixing a puncture on a mobility scooter, sorting technical errors with electric recliners, or ordering something unusual into the store. There are no pushy salesmen here, and that's why so many of our customers will come back again and again."

Get cosy this winter with the store's brand new range of fireside chairs, available in six different styles and with high or standards seats depending on your requirements. Different covers are available from a pattern book, and even the finish on the chair's legs and arms can be adjusted to your taste, with finishes including natural, teak and mahogany. Chairs are available within two to three weeks of ordering, and free delivery is available for most areas, conditions apply. Should you require a sofa, matching two-seaters are available also.

There are eight different types of recliners too, with dual or single motors, available in different colours and materials, starting from £699.



More Than Beds: Well worth a visit.



In stock: Extensive ranges.



On Market Street: More Than Beds' customers sleep easy at night.

The store has an enormous range of beds, and is the only company in the region to stock 'Health Beds' – a high end range of memory foam and pocket sprung mattresses, with the Relax 1200 now available, alongside the new Charisma model from Myers. Their adjustable beds are available at very competitive prices, with 3ft models starting at £799.

Their mobility range

includes a variety of scooters starting from £590 and available in different sizes and speeds, a selection of reclining chairs which upholstered in a range of fabrics and starting at £399 for wooden handled models, as well as a range of wheelchairs all available with free local delivery. On Wednesdays the service engineer can offer you technical help for any electrical

equipment – and tyre repair for scooters.

The store offers a price promise, meaning they will match any lower prices found on their products in other shops.

The showroom is located at 52 Central Hall, Market Street, Ely, CB7 4LU. For enquiries call (01353) 669693 or visit [www.angliamobilitytd.co.uk](http://www.angliamobilitytd.co.uk).

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# Commuters see red as rail fares rise beyond inflation

COMMUTERS heading to London will now pay £4,000 a year for the first time after season ticket hikes came into force on Sunday.

Season ticket fares from Ely and Royston to London rise by more than 6 per cent.

A weekly season ticket from Ely to Kings Cross will go up £5.90 to £104, while an off-peak trip will rise from £35.50 to £37.50, a jump of 5.6 per cent.

An annual pass between Cambridge and King's Cross has risen from £3,764 to £4,000 – an increase of 6.3 per cent – with other ticket prices rising even faster.

An anytime day return from Cambridge to the capital, travelling with National Express East Anglia, rose by 8.1 per cent from £37 to £40, while an off-peak day return now costs £21 – up 5 per cent from £20.

And there could be more pain for commuters over the next five years – with annual season tickets set to rise beyond £5,000 by 2015.

It follows the Government's decision to allow rail operators to increase season tickets by 3 per cent above inflation, compared to the old limit of 1 per cent above retail price index rate.

Commuter Shaun Noble, of St Matthew's Gardens, Cambridge, said: "It's a disgrace and is hitting working people unfairly."

"I buy my tickets weekly so it will cost me much more than £4,000."

"It's another nail in the coffin of the Lib Dems' credibility. Before the election they

BY JORDAN DAY

Email: [editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk)

promised below inflation price rises, but they have reneged on it."

Mike Crowhurst, from the pressure group Railfuture, said: "Rail fares in Britain are already amongst the highest in Europe, and we think this will just drive even more people onto the roads, which will result in even more congestion and pollution."

"The Government claims to have a green agenda, so it must not discourage people from using the greenest form of transport. During the election, they said they would end the war on the motorist."

"Now it looks like they're declaring war on the rail passenger. You can't cure overcrowding by pricing off demand."

A spokesman for First Capital Connect, which sets ticket prices for train services leaving Cambridge, said prices in East Anglia were rising by 5.8 per cent on average, compared with 6.2 per cent nationally.

He said: "This is the first price rise in two years. We want people to continue to travel on the railways and we set our prices accordingly."

The operator added it was investing £185 million in new carriages, including 1,100 new seats for King's Cross to Cambridge services in rush-hour periods.

■ **What do you think? Has the increase in fares put you off rail travel? Write to [editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk)**

## How rises will affect main routes

Weekly season ticket	Current price	New price
Cambridge to King's Cross	£94.10	£100
Ely to King's Cross	£98.10	£104
Off-peak day return	Current price	New price
Cambridge to King's Cross	£20	£21
Ely to King's Cross	£35.50	£37.50
Anytime return	Current price	New price
Cambridge to King's Cross	£37	£40
Ely to King's Cross	£44	£47

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# Collar to keep tabs on wayward Danny



Gotcha!: George Mitchell with his beloved cat, Danny.

A CAT owner has invested in state-of-the-art technology so he can pin-point his beloved feline's whereabouts 24 hours a day.

George Mitchell, of Deacons Lane, Ely, was "devastated" when his ginger tom cat, Danny, went missing.

During the first week of December, Mr Mitchell went to visit friends in nearby Welney and thought it would only be fair to take Danny along too.

But the un-neutered tom cat, which Mr Mitchell rescued as a stray last year, decided he would like a holiday of his own and escaped.

Mr Mitchell spent a day searching for Danny but as darkness fell, there was still no sign. The following morning he called Animal Search UK, a national search specialist firm, for its help in tracking the adventurous moggy.

Within 48 hours of the call, two search team members were canvassing the area with posters and leaflets and knocking on doors.

Members of the public reported sightings in Littleport

BY JORDAN DAY

Email: editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk

and other areas but a lengthy three weeks later, the ginger tom was located - four miles away in the village of Christchurch, near Upwell.

Mr Mitchell said: "When Danny went missing I was devastated. I really was dreading Christmas without him."

"Danny was roaming the streets last year when I started to feed him and within a couple of days he was sitting comfortably on the armchair."

Mr Mitchell has now paid almost £200 for a special tracker device to fit to Danny's collar.

It means he can monitor the feline's whereabouts on the internet 24 hours a day.

Mr Mitchell said: "Danny does like to roam but I never want this to happen again."

"Not knowing where he was for three weeks was awful and at least with this new tracking device I know where he is all the time. It's amazing."

For more information about Animal Search UK, visit [www.animalsearchuk.co.uk](http://www.animalsearchuk.co.uk)

## Shape up with free fen walks

THOSE intent on getting fit and losing weight in the new year are in for a treat.

The National Trust has launched a series of free health walks at Wicken Fen nature reserve.

Each walk will take around one hour and will explore different areas of the fen and surrounding countryside.

A spokeswoman for the reserve said: "The free walks are part of the East Cambridgeshire Heart Beat Health Walks initiative."

"The health benefits of regular walking can include reduced stress and blood pressure, healthy stronger hearts and better weight management - it's also a fantastic way to explore the local countryside and meet or make new friends."

The walks will take place on Wednesday at 10am.

For more information, call (01353) 720274.

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\*Prices not changed following the VAT increase on 4/1/11 although prices include VAT at 20%.

# Spotlight falls on community events that shaped our lives . . .



Art attack: the addition of sculptures assured the future of the red phone box in Prickwillow.



Bowing out: the Bishop of Ely, Dr Anthony Russell, officially retired in January.

## JANUARY

FATHER and son football fans Sooty and Kristian Edwards, from Wilburton, were handed suspended jail terms after smuggling hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of cigarettes into the country.

Plans to convert the former Soham Lodge Hotel, located off the A142, into a specialist care home for the elderly were approved by East Cambridgeshire District Council.

Community leaders in Prickwillow announced they were saving their much-loved red phone box from being destroyed and coming up with ways of turning it into a tourist attraction.

Ely pensioner Patricia Kreyer had a miracle escape after falling down a steep embankment in the Lake District, breaking her ankle, and being rescued by a couple from Mepal.

The first problems at Ely's Paradise Pool started when boiler problems forced the facility to be closed. Temporary closures continued throughout the year due to a range of issues.

The Lantern Primary School in Ely was given the

As 2010 collected its hat and coat and walked out the door, JORDAN DAY takes a look at notable events in and around Ely during the past 12 months in the first part of our review of the year.

go-ahead to further expand in order to cater for East Cambridgeshire's ever-increasing shortage of primary school places.

Cash-strapped East Cambridgeshire District Council announced it was to slash £750,000 from its budget and that all 220 staff faced an anxious wait to hear if they would keep their jobs.

An inquest heard how foreign doctor Daniel Ubani was "tired and dithery" when he gave a fatal overdose to David Gray, from Manea. A coroner later ruled the death of Mr Gray amounted to manslaughter.

Sue Ryder Care announced it was to close The Old Palace in Ely at the end of month due to spiralling costs and the building being in need of structural improvements.

Market traders in Ely became the latest group to fall victim to East Cambridgeshire District Council's savage cost cutting drive. A huge campaign was launched to try and save the markets from being axed.

The Bishop of Ely, Dr Anthony Russell, officially

retired following a 10-year ministry.

## FEBRUARY

Tracey and Paul Evans, from Haddenham, described their horror after their 1-year-old son Billy's gravestone was destroyed by vandals.

The East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership announced it wanted to put a non-alcohol designation order on Ely's Jubilee Gardens to try and reduce booze-fuelled anti-social behaviour at the beauty spot.

There was outrage after East Cambridgeshire District Council announced that the region's kerbside plastic bottle recycling scheme was to be axed under its cost cutting procedures.

Cabbies blasted East Cambridgeshire District Council over plans to revamp the region's taxi industry. The council said it wanted a "safer and easier" service but taxi drivers said the changes were unnecessary and too costly.

Double yellow lines and special parking bays were introduced to Ely's

Cambridgeshire Business Park in a bid to prevent "selfish" commuters from clogging up the park's parking spaces.

Businessman Jeremy Tyrrell was ordered to pay £12,000 after he failed to remove unauthorised building work from Ely's precious Roswell Pits.

It was announced the Planning Inspectorate would be visiting The Home, a massive furniture store in Littleport, after East Cambridgeshire District Council accused its owner, Stephen Layn, of breaching planning conditions.

## MARCH

Furious residents demanded that the

roundabout built as part of the new Kings Avenue development in Ely be opened after more than a year of it being closed.

Market traders were jubilant after being given a last-minute reprieve from East Cambridgeshire District Council's cost cutting measures. The turnaround came after more than 5,000 people signed a petition to try and prevent the markets from being closed down.

Bosses at the HSBC bank in Ely were forced to take action after homeless people and drug users started to sleep inside the premises overnight.

The King's School Ely became embroiled in the row over plans for Ely's



Nativity fun: youngsters from the Lantern Primary School, which was given permission to expand early in 2010.

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Gone but not forgotten: Ely man James Wodehouse was the subject of tributes after his death in March.



Cull call: residents demanded action against muntjac deer – which were causing mayhem in the area in April.



Royal tribute: a costume sale at the Viva Centre, with Maureen Hazelden, Frank Crosby and Hilary Owen. The centre in Soham won thanks from The Queen in June.

**Next week: don't miss the second part of our look back to the big events that made the news in 2010.**

southern bypass after announcing it could lose acres of its sports grounds if the multi-million pound facility is ever built.

Tributes were paid to well-known Ely man James Wodehouse, 83, who died of a heart attack in the Minster Tavern pub.

Community leaders demanded action over the state of the Old Grammar School in Soham after it became plagued by fly tippers, yobs and rats.

Muntjac deer terrorised the Ely area more than ever before and residents demanded a mass cull of the creatures. But the move caused uproar among animal lovers.

Ely Citizens Advice Bureau and Voluntary and Community Action East Cambs were awarded £105,000 worth of funding after helping victims of the recession cope with a £9.6 million debt mountain.

Richard Hobbs, the then Mayor of Ely, demanded an apology from Travelodge after its survey found the city to be among the least attractive for visitors. Ely came eighth in the list of top 10 least desirable places to visit.

**APRIL**

East Cambridgeshire District Council set up a special working party to examine controversial parking issues in Ely and announced parking regulations could be set up.

The family of inspirational cancer sufferer Liam Fairhurst launched a scheme to raise £5 million for children's cancer charity CLIC Sargent.

Cambridgeshire County Council announced two new wind farms could be built near Ely – one at Wolvey Holes Farm in Coveney and one in Whitehall Farm in Littleport.

District and county councillor Philip Read, who represents Sutton, was ordered to hand an antique shotgun back to his estranged brother.

After almost a decade without a market in Soham, Timothy Clark, Lord of Netherhall Manor announced he was starting a campaign to re-launch one in the town.

It was revealed John Cowan, Labour candidate for South East Cambridgeshire, was expelled from the Liberal Democrat party for sending "sexual" emails to female

co-workers. He was later suspended by the Labour party.

Recycling points around Ely started to become "rubbish dumps". Residents blamed it on East Cambridgeshire District Council scrapping the kerbside collection of plastic bottles.

The Arthur Rank Hospice Charity launched a new programme of care at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Ely for patients to get support closer to home.

**MAY**

A campaign to build an athletics track in Ely ground to a halt due to uncertainty over plans to build a southern bypass in the city – despite councillors admitting funds for the project were limited.

Fears were raised for the future of libraries in the district over nationwide plans to close those which weren't used enough.

Cllr Ron Bradney, former Mayor of Ely, was forced to liquidate The Atrium gym in Ely after a High Court ruling ordered him to pay a tax bill of £450,000.

Littleport residents celebrated after learning plans to demolish a controversial skatepark in the village were given the go-ahead.

The Conservatives held the seat in South East Cambridgeshire when Jim Paice was re-elected by his constituency voters.

Bosses at East Cambridgeshire District Council announced they were considering introducing a cabinet style decision-making procedure. The proposed move caused uproar with Liberal Democrat councillors who said local people would be "left without a voice".

Sutton Primary School was urged to make "significant improvements" by Ofsted inspectors.

Councillors demanded an overhaul of the recycling

system in East Cambridgeshire after it was revealed the district was performing the worst in the county.

**JUNE**

Villagers in Streham pleaded for speed reduction measures to be introduced on the A1123 following the death of truck driver Jeremy Williamson-Brown.

Residents in Mepal described their fury over flooding at the village's St Mary's Church graveyard, saying it was preventing them from visiting their relatives' graves.

East Cambridgeshire District Council announced market traders could be forced to buy and erect their own stalls if they want to keep selling their wares in Ely.

Soham-based Viva Arts and Community Group was recognised by The Queen for its dedication to helping youngsters through the arts.

Arsonists set fire to the derelict former Associated British Foods Factory in Angel Drove, Ely. The building was condemned as structurally unsafe and had to be demolished.

Supermarket giant Sainsbury's was given the green light to come to Ely, creating 350 jobs in the city.

Tributes were paid to youth worker Keziah Smit, of Jubilee Terrace, Ely, who was killed in a car crash on the A11.

Spring Meadow Infant School in Ely and The Weatheralls Primary School in Soham were given planning permission to extend in a bid to combat the district's rapidly-growing shortage of primary school places.

Residents in Walsingham Way, Ely, celebrated after learning their homes had been saved from being demolished.

There were cheers and tears as soldiers from The Royal Anglian Regiment took part in an emotional homecoming parade in Ely.



Flying the flag: the crowds turn out for the Royal Anglian Regiment's homecoming parade in June.

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## Huntley refused legal aid

**MURDERER** Ian Huntley has been refused taxpayers' cash to sue after his throat was slashed by another prisoner.

Huntley had attempted to use legal aid to try to claim £20,000 in compensation for the attack at Frankland jail, Co Durham, last March.

His request was refused by the Legal Services Commission (LSC) on the grounds it "did not satisfy the test for funding".

He is expected to appeal after claiming there was a "breach of duty" by the prison authorities who allegedly failed to protect him from multiple attacks by fellow inmates.

A LSC spokesman said: "The LSC found that the application did not satisfy the test for funding."

"However, Ian Huntley is entitled to appeal against this refusal to an independent review panel."

Huntley's claim amounts to nearly the same awarded to the parents of 10-year-old Jessica Chapman and Holly Wells, who he murdered in Soham in 2002.

## Link in damage to cars

TWO car break-ins on Christmas Day are being linked by police.

Both incidents happened in Haddenham.

A DVD player and private documents were stolen from a car in Hop Row after thieves smashed the rear passenger window.

The break-in happened between 8.45pm and 9.15pm.

Between 5pm and 11pm, offenders hurled a brick at a vehicle parked in Station Road.

The car's front and rear windcreens, were smashed although nothing was taken.

Anyone with information is urged to call police on 0345 4564564.

# Dad cleared of punching man

A MAN accused of punching his step-daughter's boyfriend has been found not guilty.

Robert Starling, 43, appeared at Ely Magistrates' Court charged with assaulting 20-year-old Christopher Youngs.

After a three-hour trial, Starling, who is a self-employed builder, was cleared by the bench.

The alleged incident was said to have happened following a booze-fuelled barbecue at Starling's home in Mereside, Soham, on September 19.

The bench heard how Mr Youngs has been in a relationship with Starling's step-daughter, Laura Dennis, for three years and that Starling and Miss Dennis's mother, Melanie Starling, do not approve of him.

BY JORDAN DAY

Email: editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk

Giving evidence in court, Mr Youngs said: "Laura texted me that evening to pick her up."

"When I arrived at the house, Laura was in a bad state, lying on the floor outside. It was clear she was very drunk."

"I went over to help her up. She told me she loved me and that she wanted to go."

"Mr Starling then came running out the door, shouting at me and accusing me of taking Laura's phone."

"There's no way I could take it as I hadn't been at the barbecue and Laura had used it to text me."

"He then hit me. It was beneath my left eye."

"I had a black eye and it

left a scar for a couple of months."

Mr Youngs added: "Laura told me to run away and as I did, Mr Starling ran down the road after me, shouting he knew where I lived."

Starling's argument was that he pushed Mr Youngs away from him in self defence.

Sue Griffin, presiding magistrate, also heard evidence from Mrs Starling and Kayley Lane, a friend of Miss Dennis.

She said: "We agree there was an altercation and that Mr Youngs was injured, as that is clear to see."

"But we have heard such conflicting evidence and on balance, we are unable to determine whether you hit him or pushed him in self defence."

"We, therefore, find you not guilty."

## Draft Littleport Masterplan Public Consultation Exhibition

Wednesday 19th January, 3pm-8pm and Saturday 22nd January, 9am-4pm at Littleport Village Hall

### Help shape Littleport's future

You can view copies of the draft Littleport Masterplan and background documents at the following locations:

**Littleport Parish Council Offices,**  
The Barn, Main Street, Littleport, CB6 1PH

**East Cambridgeshire District Council Offices,**  
The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, CB7 4EE

For further information go to the District Council's website [www.eastcamb.gov.uk](http://www.eastcamb.gov.uk) or telephone 01353 665555

There will also be displays at the following Littleport locations:

- Co-op, Wisbech Road – 10th January – 21st February
- Littleport Leisure Centre, Camel Road – 10th January – 21st February
- BP Garage/Spar, Wisbech Road – 10th January – 21st February
- The Barn, Main Street – 10th January – 21st January
- Littleport Library, Victoria Street – 24th January – 4th February
- YPL, Granby Street – 7th February – 21st February
- Outside Black Horse Grove Community Centre – Friday 21st January 1.30pm-2.30pm



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Holistic Fields caters to everyone, from young children to elderly clients, regular and drop-in customers, both male and female. To encourage more men to give treatments a try, the centre is currently developing a range of packages especially for them.

Holistic Fields is open Monday-Saturday from 10am-7pm.

Visit at 2-2a High Street Passage, Ely. Call (01353) 666380 or visit [www.holisticfields.co.uk](http://www.holisticfields.co.uk).



Dynamic dancin': Catherine Jenkinson-Dix, college principal, Ryan Goodson and Kevin Burke, a fundraiser for Young Lives.

## Top act wows judges

AN amateur dancer has gone through to the regional heats of a prestigious competition.

Ryan Goodson, from Ely, wowed judges and the audience with his impressive routine.

The 14-year-old was one of 16 acts from City of Ely Community College who battled it out in the Ely's Got Talent competition.

After much debate from the judges, which included Weekly News reporter Jordan Day, Ryan was crowned the winner.

He will now go on to take part in the Young Cambridgeshire's Got Talent competition in February, with the chance of competing nationally.

He said: "I'm so pleased. I thought my performance went quite well once I'd done it but I never thought I'd win."

"I'm really looking forward to the next stage of the competition now."

Young Cambridgeshire's Got Talent is organised by the specialist youth charity, Young Lives.

The school organised the Ely's Got Talent competition not only to allow students to unleash their hidden skills but also raise money for the charity.

Kevin Burke, a fundraiser for Young Lives and another judge on the evening, said: "I was extremely impressed with the talent the college had to offer."

"All of the students were brilliant but Ryan definitely stood out as the winner - he was brilliant."

For more information, visit [www.young-lives.org.uk](http://www.young-lives.org.uk)

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# Dad guilty of break-in at station café

A FATHER was one of two men who broke into a café at a train station using a pair of garden secateurs, a court heard.

Justin Barnes, 40, was seen on CCTV alongside another man at Ely railway station "acting suspiciously".

Station supervisors called police and when officers arrived, they found Barnes inside the station's L.A. Golden Bean café with a torch in his hand.

Once arrested, he directed officers to a large plant pot outside the café, where the secateurs were discovered.

Barnes, of John Amner Close, Ely, appeared at Ely Magistrates' Court where he pleaded guilty to a charge of trespass with intent to steal.

Angela Sassoli, prosecuting, said: "Supervisors at the station became aware of them acting suspiciously at around 11.20pm on December 5.

"Police arrived and found Barnes inside the café with a

BY JORDAN DAY

Email: [editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk](mailto:editorial@elyweeklynews.co.uk)

torch in his hand.

The bench heard how the pair caused around £200 worth of damage, although they did not manage to steal anything.

Michael Judkins, mitigating for Barnes, explained how his client had been involved in a car accident in September 2009 and was hospitalised for around nine months.

Despite Barnes's admissions in interview, he added: "Mr Barnes was not a willing participant in this. He simply went inside the café because the other offender was too big to fit through the gap in the shutter."

Magistrates adjourned the case until January 13 for presentence reports and psychiatric reports to be prepared.

Barnes was released on unconditional bail.

■ A co-defendant was remanded in custody at the time of the offence and will appear at court at a later date.

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## Thieves strike over holidays

GOLF clubs and electrical garden equipment were stolen during a break-in over the festive break. The incident happened at a property in Aldreth Road, Haddenham. Thieves entered the garage and yard and stole numerous items of electrical equipment. Golf clubs, diesel and batteries were also taken. The break-in happened between 4pm on December 25 and 12pm on December 26. Anyone with information is urged to call police on 0345 4564564.

## Agency's bid for changes

CHANGES look set to be made at Environment Agency offices in Ely. The agency has applied for planning permission to demolish a storage building at its site in Kiln Lane, off Prickwillow Road. Bosses then want to build a new storage and "welfare facility". A decision could be made by East Cambridgeshire District Council within the next two months. To view the proposals, visit [www.eastcamb.gov.uk](http://www.eastcamb.gov.uk)

## Spotlight on old buildings

ANCIENT buildings will be the topic of conversation at a talk this month. Elaine Byrne, from the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, will be speaking about the society's work in Ely on Wednesday, January 12. The talk has been organised by the Ely Society and will take place in the Methodist Hall on Chapel Street at 7.30pm. For more information, visit [www.elysociety.org.uk](http://www.elysociety.org.uk)

## Surgery set for expansion

A DOCTOR'S surgery could be made bigger. St Mary's Surgery in St Mary's Street, Ely, has applied for planning permission to demolish the building's front porch and build a single-storey extension in its place. East Cambridgeshire District Council has received the application and a decision is expected within the next eight weeks.

# New Year wishes for health and happiness in 2011



To predict the future is a game of probabilities and it is virtually impossible at a personal level to know what will happen.

Nevertheless, we all have to work on our own "best guess" about the future or we remain rudderless and at a loss.

This coming year will see taxes and prices rise at a faster rate than incomes. Consumption will be squeezed and we should presume that it would be wise to try and "do more with less".

Our national transition from the over-indulgence of the past decade to a stronger, more balanced economy, less reliant on debt and consumerism, will be a feature for many years to come.

Given the freedom to act, the natural ingenuity of our people will find new ways of organising and producing that will provide a brighter future than is immediately apparent. Perhaps by welcoming and accepting a shift in emphasis back to personal

## Brian Ashton, Mayor of Ely

responsibility, support for the family and participation in our local community it will prove to be a journey of personal and collective fulfilment.

Provided we all pull together, these changes should be relatively easy for the community of Ely and the surrounding villages and townships. We are already so much stronger than most. Unemployment has remained around 2.5 per cent against a national average three times higher. Vacant retail space stands at a quarter of the national average. Albeit at a slower rate than in the "boom times", homes and business premises continue to be built. The construction of a major supermarket will start this spring, bringing hundreds of jobs to the local area.

Our collective problems are largely the problems of success: a shortage of parking in the city centre, traffic hold-ups at the railway crossing, choices around land resources for city centre development and a

shortage of appropriate living accommodation for the increasing numbers of elderly people, to name but a few challenges for the future.

I am confident that provided we bring careful analysis, determination, enthusiasm and persistence to bear on resolving these problems, whilst continually maintaining our "human infrastructure" of community and voluntary groups, then we will have a city that we will be pleased to pass on to future generations.

A failure of spirit at both personal and collective levels is our greatest danger during what will prove, for many, to be a time of challenging transition. I recommend that we all maintain an optimistic outlook whilst tempering our actions with consideration and a degree of caution.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours good health, joy and peace in the coming year.

I'm not sure what you'll remember 2010 for – perhaps for William and Kate's engagement. Perhaps you'll remember it as the year of the incredible rescue of 33 Chilean miners or Paul and Rachel Chandler being released from captivity in Sudan.

Perhaps you'll remember 2010 as the year of the Haitian earthquake, the

## Jim Paice, MP for South East Cambridgeshire

Pakistani floods or volcanic ash cloud. Perhaps you'll remember 2010 as the year of a general election which produced the first coalition Government since the war.

I would guess that, like me, you won't remember 2010 in terms of news stories, but in terms of your own personal stories of joy

and sadness.

For me, 2010 has been a mixture of immense honour at being appointed Minister of Agriculture, alongside weariness in the face of the sheer hard work of the job and the grief of family bereavement.

Whilst I hope this country will continue to recover

economically, that the Government continues to provide strong leadership, and the royal wedding is a day of great celebration, these things are only ever the backdrop to people's lives.

I wish my constituents health and happiness into 2011.



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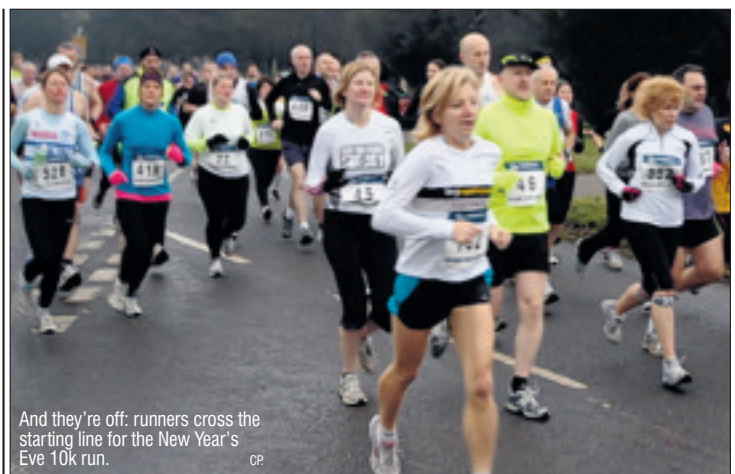
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<p><b>Monday 31 January</b> 6.30pm - 8.00pm Room 2, Meadows Community Centre, 1 St Catharine's Road, <b>Cambridge</b> CB4 3XJ</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 23 February</b> 6.30pm - 8.00pm Room G93, The Oak Tree Centre, 1 Oak Tree Drive, <b>Huntingdon</b>, Cambs PE29 7HN</p>	<p><b>Thursday 10 March</b> 6.30pm - 8.00pm St. Joseph's Hall, The Rosmini Centre, 69A Queens Street, <b>Wisbech</b>, Cambs PE13 2PH</p>

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[www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk](http://www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk)



## Runners race into new year

SPRIGHTLY souls celebrated the end of 2010 by donning their running shoes. Ely Runners held their annual New Year's Eve Run on Friday.

The 10-kilometre event attracted sprinters from across the region – and country – and saw a total of 700 people taking part.

Participants set off from the starting line at Little Downham Village Hall and completed a scenic, flat route through parts of Ely and surrounding villages.

A spokeswoman for Ely Runners described the race as a "brilliant event".

The three winning men, in order, were Matt Gunby, John Herbert and Stu Huntington.

Felicity Milton, Katie Sherwood and Yamuna Thiru were the three winning women.



# THE GUIDE

**INSIDE**

Latest films 22

Puzzles 23

Gardening 23

Weekend TV 24

## Join Jack for a giant adventure

BY JORDAN DAY

Christmas may now be just a memory – but there's still time to enjoy some pantomime fun. Oh, yes there is!

Haddenham's annual pantomime will be *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and as ever, it will be raising much-needed funds for the village's Arkenstall Centre.

The show runs from Wednesday, January 12 – Saturday, January 15 at the centre.

Jess Garrett, who lives in the village and has been involved with the annual pantomimes since 1995, when she was just 9-years-old, has directed the performance.

She said: "The Haddenham pantomime is a great opportunity for the whole community to work together and have some fun.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed working with more than 100

**Villagers set to continue festive cheer with annual panto**

cast and crew members to put on what promises to be an excellent show, with songs and laughs aplenty, plus opportunities for traditional audience participation."

Performances will be at 7.30pm each evening, plus there will be a matinee performance at 2.30pm on the Saturday.

Tickets for Wednesday's performance are available only on the door, priced at £4.

Tickets for the rest of the shows are priced at £6 for adults and £5 for concessions, and are available from Haddenham Galleries on the village's High Street.

Alternatively, call (01353) 749188.

There will be a licensed bar at each performance.



**CROWD FAVOURITE:** Jack and the Beanstalk comes to Haddenham's Arkenstall Centre next week.

Leisure or events news? email [jordan.day@cambridge-news.co.uk](mailto:jordan.day@cambridge-news.co.uk) phone (01353) 667916



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## Bands wanted

ENTRIES are being taken for the Cambridge Band Competition, which offers aspiring musicians the chance to win a set at Strawberry Fair, a cash prize and a shoot with a top photographer.

It is open to musicians of any age, playing any genre of music from the Cambridge area, including all local towns and villages within 30 miles of Midsummer Common. Bands will be able to enter from January 1-31. An application will be available to download at [www.strawberry-fair.org.uk](http://www.strawberry-fair.org.uk)

## A knight's tale

THE New Year kicks off with an exciting one-off appearance by Sir Ian McKellen, who will be at The Brook in Soham on Sunday.

The multi-award winning actor has spanned genres from Shakespearean and modern theatre to movie blockbusters.

This unique, intimate evening will provide a fantastic opportunity to hear about the actor's life and career.

Contact (01353) 721748 or (01353) 669759 for details.

## All jazzed up

A POPULAR Ely-based quartet will get the new year off to a swinging start with an evening of gypsy jazz.

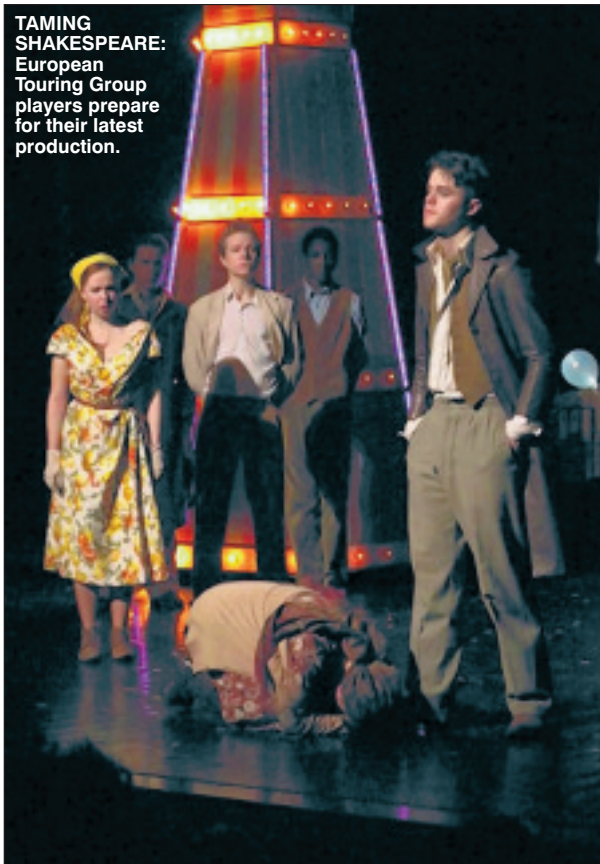
Parisian Swing are set to continue their series of successful performances at the Royal Standard on Fore Hill in Ely, on Sunday at 8.30 pm.

Admission is free.

Further details from Mike Massey on (01353) 656959.

## It's fair fun and bright lights in Bard's Shrew

**TAMING SHAKESPEARE: European Touring Group players prepare for their latest production.**



THE ADC Theatre opens the new year with the return of Cambridge University European Theatre Group and their production Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*.

The group is currently playing around central Europe and their production, appropriately set in a travelling funfair, rolls back into Cambridge on Tuesday, January 18.

With bright lights and carousels, screams, swings, and thrills, *The Taming of the Shrew* is the story of showmen.

In the Bard's celebrated comedy, it is the 1950s, and a travelling funfair has just arrived in town. On the surface, it is a dream world of riches, romance, and riot; but underneath it all lurks the anarchic subculture of these unsettled entertainers, living on the very edge of society. Here, corruption and wickedness pervade, morality is a mere aberration, and nothing is quite as it seems.

But appearances must be kept up, and the show will go on.

As the oldest and most prestigious touring theatre

society in Cambridge, ETG tours a Shakespearean play, along with full set and technical equipment, around Europe for just over two weeks each December.

The group is a self-sufficient, entirely student-run theatrical company formed more than 50 years ago. Each year more than 25 players visit around 12 venues in five or six countries, ranging from professional theatres, to schools and universities, and even to churches and converted bread-ovens! In the past, it has performed in France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg, Holland, The Czech Republic, Italy and Hungary, before returning for a home-run in Cambridge in January. The plays are designed to engage with modern audiences, from school children to expatriates, and alongside this they offer both artistic and technical workshops at all venues we perform.

**Cambridge University ETG's Taming of the Shrew / ADC Theatre / Tuesday, January 18 to Saturday, January 22 at 7.45pm (Sat matinee 2.30pm / tickets £10-£6 from (01223) 300 085 or [www.adctheatre.com](http://www.adctheatre.com)**

## Top artists show off their work

BUDDING artists are about to see their masterpieces exhibited on the walls of the Babylon Gallery in Ely.

In the autumn, a special art competition was launched by Arts Development in East Cambridgeshire (ADeC) and Ely-Hereward Rotary to enable school pupils in East Cambridgeshire to unleash their creative sides.

After months of painting and sculpting, the artwork will be judged by a team of professionals, with the winners being announced on Friday. Prizes will be awarded to the top three entries in each age category and much of the artwork will go on public display at the Babylon Gallery on Ely's Waterside.

Caroline Cawley, marketing manager at ADeC, said: "We've received lots of entries with a good mix of paintings, drawings, textiles and sculptures. There are a lot of talented young people in East Cambridgeshire and we're really pleased to be able to showcase their work."

There will be a private view for friends and family on Friday.

The exhibition will be open to the public this weekend. Entry is free. For more information, visit [www.adec.org.uk](http://www.adec.org.uk)

## The big film

**THE WAY BACK**  
certificate 12A 132m

INSPIRED by Slavomir Rawicz's memoir *The Long Walk: The True Story Of A Trek To Freedom - The Way Back* is a harrowing tale of courage and endurance against the odds during the Second World War.

Australian director Peter Weir certainly has the pedigree to tackle such sweeping subject matter. He recreated the hard-fought Gallipoli campaign in his 1981 film starring Mel Gibson and most recently, he ventured on the high seas with Russell Crowe for *Master And Commander: The Far Side Of The World*. Weir's new film is epic in scope, combining elements of Rawicz's book with first-person accounts told to the director and co-writer Keith Clarke as part of their extensive research. Cinematographer Russell Boyd captures the rugged beauty of the frozen wastelands of Siberia and the Mongolian desert, where the story unfolds.

We get a vivid sense of the physical ordeal that lies ahead for the characters as they embark on a 4,000-mile



trek to freedom that we know, from a caption at the beginning of the film, will end in tragedy for more than half of the cast.

In Soviet-occupied Poland, officer Janusz (Jim Sturgess) is falsely incriminated as a foreign spy by his wife (Sally Edwards) and sent to a Russian gulag in Siberia. Behind the gulag walls, Janusz meets Khabarov (Mark Strong), who claims that escape is possible if they head south to Lake Baikal, using the elements to cover their tracks.

*The Way Back* maintains a deliberately slow pace so we are with the escapees every arduous step of the way. We

shiver in the cold and feel the rippling heat of the desert where more of the prisoners take their final breaths.

Sturgess and fellow escapees Ed Harris and Colin Farrell deliver strong performances, while Saoirse Ronan, who also joins the remarkable odyssey, once again demonstrates emotional depth beyond her tender years.

The enormity of what the real escapees achieved overshadows anything that Weir could ever commit to celluloid. But at 132 minutes, *The Way Back* allows us to walk for a while in their historic footsteps.

## Short cuts

**MEET THE PARENTS: LITTLE FOCKERS (12A)**

HAPLESS male nurse Gaylord 'Greg' Focker (Ben Stiller) is blissfully in love with his wife Pam (Teri Polo) and his twins, Samantha (Daisy Tahan) and Henry (Colin Baiocchi). The feisty daughter is giving her father the silent treatment while the boy is becoming fussy about his food. It's hassle that Greg could do without as he considers a lucrative job offer from pretty drugs rep Andi Garcia (Jessica Alba) and debates sending the little ones to the prestigious Early Human School, run by inspirational headmistress Prudence (Laura Dern).

Meanwhile, Pam's father, retired CIA operative Jack Byrnes (Robert De Niro), continues to view Greg with suspicion and isn't sure that his son-in-law is made of the right material to lead the clan.

**GULLIVER'S TRAVELS (PG)**

LEMUEL Gulliver (Jack Black) works in the post room of a New York newspaper, where he pines for travel editor Darcy Silverman (Amanda Peet) from afar. In order to impress the object of his affections, Gulliver blags a travel assignment to the Bermuda Triangle. Heading out to sea on his boat

Notersail, Gulliver is swept into a massive, swirling column of water and when he regains consciousness, he discovers that he is a giant in the land of Lilliput. Feared at first by the tiny inhabitants, Gulliver ingratiates himself with King Theodore (Billy Connolly), Queen Isabelle (Catherine Tate) and their daughter Princess Mary (Emily Blunt).

**LOVE & OTHER DRUGS (15)**

SET in the mid 1990s, the film centres initially on pharmaceutical sales rep Jamie Randall (Jake Gyllenhaal), who works alongside mentor Bruce Jackson (Oliver Platt), wooing waiting room receptionists like Cindy (Judy Greer) in the hope of getting their drugs on to the shelves. During one visit to the surgery of Dr Knight (Hank Azaria), Jamie meets 26-year-old patient Maggie Murdock

(Anne Hathaway), an artist with early-onset Parkinson's disease. The more time Maggie and Jamie spend together, the more aware they become that her degenerative condition could rob them of any chance of lasting happiness.

**ANIMALS UNITED (U)**

IN the Okavango Delta, the local wildlife waits patiently every year for the waters which nourish the valley. When the deluge fails to materialise, Billy the forgetful meerkat (voiced by James Corden) and his best friend Socrates the lion (Stephen Fry) embark on an epic quest to find water and prove to Billy's son Junior (Mischa Goodman) that his old man is just as valiant as the larger animals. En route, Billy and Socrates befriend the exiles from other continents and together they search for water.



**BIG TROUBLE:**

in the *Little Fockers*, which sees Gaylord 'Greg' Focker return to the screen with wife Pam, and this time twins Samantha and Henry.

# Return of the cabbage patch kids

There will be no let-up in the grow-your-own campaign this year as gardeners continue to strive towards harvesting their own fruit and vegetables, according to the results of a new survey.

Following the current trend towards The Good Life, top items that people want for their gardens in 2011 include a vegetable plot, according to research commissioned by Hangar Seven, an agency specialising in garden centre marketing.

So, if you've never had a vegetable patch, now's the time to start planning ahead. Whichever plot you choose, it will need to have some sunshine to enable you to grow a wide variety of veg.

Also, take note of the micro-climate of your garden. Is it in a frost pocket, exposed to prevailing winds, or sheltered by neighbouring hedges, walls or fences? Are you in a cold part of the country or further south? All these considerations will make a difference to what you can grow and your harvesting times.

Small gardens which are enclosed by walls can be a couple of degrees warmer at night, but remember that each wall has dry stone along its base which will require extra watering.

Sunlovers include tomatoes, peppers and beans, which need temperatures of 5C (41F) to grow and are best sown indoors and planted out when all danger of frost has passed, which could be late May or early June.

Hardy plants which will survive frost down to -10C (14F) include fruit



by Hannah Stephenson

bushes, strawberries, kale, Brussels sprouts and chives.

Those which will survive occasional light frost include sprouting broccoli, chard and artichokes.

Digging over the ground and removing all weeds is the first step towards a fruitful vegetable garden, but soil improvement is also of major importance.

Check the pH level of your soil by buying a tester kit at your garden centre, to show you the level of acidity or alkalinity, which will give you some idea of what crops you can grow.

Veg and herbs tend to thrive in neutral soil. If your soil is acidic, you may need to add lime to make it more alkaline. Even if it's neutral, an addition of lime every four years will help retain the balance as any soil that is intensively worked will become more acidic over the years.

Check your soil's texture to determine what needs to be added to it to improve it and what crops will do best.

Rub a clump of it between your fingers. If it forms a ball without

crumbling and feels smooth and sticky, it's likely to be clay.

If it forms a ball but falls apart quickly, it will be loam and if it doesn't roll into a ball at all and feels gritty, it's likely to be sandy soil.

It's more difficult to grow root veg on heavy clay soils which are often stony, while brassicas don't like sandy soil.

Whatever your soil type, improve it by adding plenty of organic matter, such as well-rotted manure or compost to increase nutrients and improve texture, aeration of the soil and drainage.

If you are a beginner, think about how much time and effort you're prepared to spend on your chosen crop. Some plants, such as beans, courgettes and radishes will provide a bumper crop with little effort.

Others are much more time-consuming. Tomatoes, for example, need plenty of regular watering and feeding, staking, pinching out and protecting from adverse weather. And if you go away on holiday when they need harvesting in the summer and you don't have family or neighbours who can pick them for you, you'll lose the lot.

If you haven't got a greenhouse and don't want to take up all your windowsill space for seed trays, consider growing crops which will germinate outside later in the spring, like lettuces, onions, peas, radishes, broad beans, beetroot and carrot.

Most importantly, grow veg which you like to eat – if radishes aren't your bag, there's no point having a bumper crop of them.



**BUMPER CROP:** Vegetable plots have become a fashionable must-have as people seek to grow their own produce.

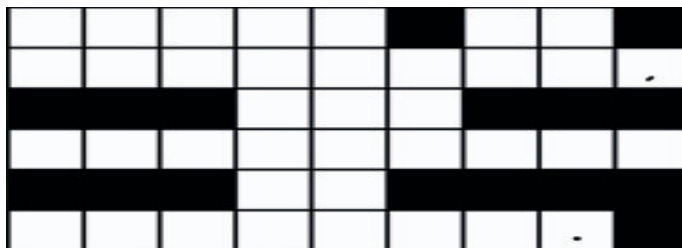
## Lost letters 46

In each of these puzzles a famous or popular quotation fills the grid. The individual letters remain in their correct column, but have fallen out and are out of order.

Reinsert them in the correct order to find the answer. Any punctuation is given in its own square.

This quotation is from Napoleon Bonaparte.

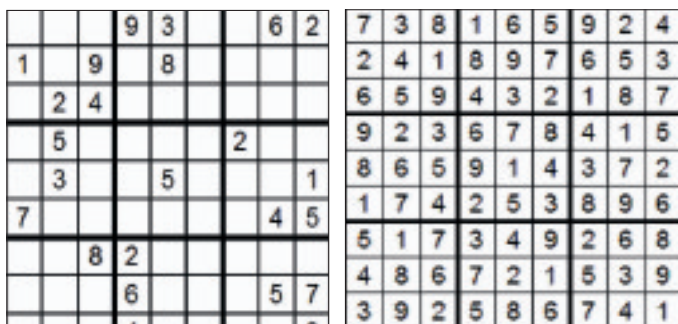
■ Last week's solution: **In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.**



R S  
I Y  
O L R E U T I  
F O O B U E N G  
G B E E V I R T  
F L S C T R I S Y

## Sudoku 133:

Place a number from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so that each 3x3 block, column, and full row includes each of the numbers from 1 to 9 only once.



■ Last week's solution.

## FOUR Ws

1. WHO...won the Whitbread Book of the Year Award with the biography *Matisse the Master*? WHAT...is the building represented on the flag of Cambodia? WHERE...is the

largest settlement on Svalbard? WHEN...was the mutiny on the Bounty? 2. WHO...wrote the stage play *Inferno* in the House of Fred Ginger? WHAT...was the chart act whose lead singer was Ben

Volpeliere-Pierrot? WHERE...in Scotland was the poet Robert Burns born? WHEN...was the German seaport of Emden granted official town status? 3. WHO...were the group who released the

1999 album *Millionaires*? WHAT...is the stage name of the entertainer Daniel Patrick Carroll? WHERE...was the video artist Nam June Paik born? WHEN...did the poet Cecil Day-Lewis die?

Answers: 1. Hilary Spurling; The temple of Angkor Wat; Longyearbyen; 1789. 2. Fred Watson; Curiosity Killed the Cat; Alloway, South Ayrshire; 1495. 3. James; Danny La Rue; Seoul, Korea; 1972.

## Crossword

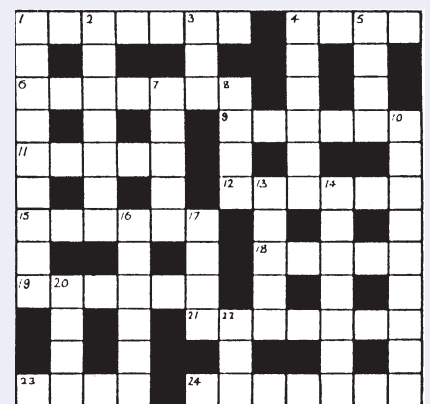
2198

### Across

- Anger at fashionable scene being trashed. (7)
- Mock US soldier-to-be. (4)
- Clergyman returns with crushed bean and flower. (7)
- Rotter to end as golfer's mate. (6)
- Approaches northern listeners. (5)
- Going to the bad, royalty's to rave. (6)
- Having a gown in tatters. (6)
- Time lost from man's title if one's not generous. (5)
- "You old guys" I call from Arab Republic. (6)
- Falls for an artist bringing a profit back. (7)
- Window causes sound of agony. (4)
- One from the past is still here? (3-4)

### Down

- Person with ideas starts to yawn at list. (9)
- Window dressing described in brief article at home. (7)
- Single negative put up as relative. (3)
- Look at the goose! (6)
- One politician flies up to distant Island. (4)



- Made sense of European city. (5)
- Came somehow to the top. (4)
- Come in with popular volunteers first to amuse. (9)
- Odd book leading to a dance. (5)
- Calm beast of burden on university time. (7)
- One church will grow old from a freezing past. (3-3)
- Is Georgia in to make profit? (4)
- The Spanish graduate climbs up to Island. (4)
- I nearly stop the girl. (3)

**Solution 2197 - Across:** 1. Raft; 7. Tripod; 8. Tape; 10. Dee; 11. Densely; 12. Ide; 13. Pence; 17. Barge; 19. Sap; 21. Epicure; 22. Eon; 23. Drum; 25. Search; 26. Aden.  
**Down:** 1. Rotor; 2. Fop; 3. Trance; 4. Ophelia; 5. Eddying; 6. Leered; 9. Eden; 14. Expense; 15. Capital; 16. Assent; 17. Bounce; 18. Reed; 20. Demon; 24. Rod.

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THEGUIDE WEEKEND TV

SATURDAY

Table with 5 columns: BBC1, BBC2, ITV, CHANNEL 4, CHANNEL 5. Lists TV programs and their start times for Saturday.



Arctic with Bruce Parry BBC2, Sunday, 9pm



Wild At Heart ITV, Sunday, 8.30pm



Derren Brown: Behind the Mischief Channel Four, Saturday, 9pm



Charlie's Angels five, Sunday, 7.05pm

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SUNDAY

Table with 5 columns: BBC1, BBC2, ITV, CHANNEL 4, CHANNEL 5. Lists TV programs and their start times for Sunday.

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**Hot properties**  
in the Ely region



**Spacious home  
on quiet cul-de-sac**

# Lots of room inside and out



**at a glance**

- On the market for £350,000
- Modern family home
- Five bedrooms
- Garden and parking
- Quiet village location



THIS spacious, individual detached residence is situated in Rectory Fields, a pleasant cul-de-sac location in Mepal, Ely. Inside, the accommodation includes a spacious entrance hall, cloakroom, study, smart living room, dining room, refitted kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, master bedroom with en

suite shower room and dressing room, four further bedrooms and a family bathroom. Driveway parking and a garage is also provided, and there is an attractive lawned garden to the rear. Offers around £350,000 are invited for this excellent family home. For more information, contact Pocock & Shaw on (01353) 668091.

**cover property**

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## Four bedroom home sits at centre of village

OFFERS around £219,950 are invited for this family house with a double garage set in High Street, Stretham. The property is modern and incorporates attractive contemporary accommodation. This includes an entrance hall, cloakroom, light and spacious living room with feature fireplace, a kitchen/dining room, four first-floor bedrooms and a recently

fitted bathroom. Outside, there is a small front garden and a lawned rear garden with a side gate leading to the double garage. Offered with no upward chain, and occupying a central village location, this would make an ideal home for a family. For more information, contact TuckerGardner on (01353) 616130.



## Walk downtown from this pretty modern townhouse

SET in Cardinals Way, within walking-distance of the centre of Ely, is this modern townhouse. The property provides an entrance hall with storage cupboard, a kitchen/dining room, utility room, cloakroom, attractive first-floor sitting room, study/bedroom, master bedroom with en suite, guest bedroom with en suite and

bedroom three with use of the family bathroom. A garage and parking is provided to the front of the residence, and there is a low-maintenance garden to the rear. This smart, contemporary city home is on the market for £380,000. Contact Abbotts Countrywide on (01353) 666502.

OFFICES IN: CAMBRIDGE ELY LITTLEPORT SAWSTON

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**NEW**

**The Crescent Littleport**

**£149,995**



**NEW PRICE**

**Mill Pit Furlong Littleport**

**£199,950**



**Priced to sell - be quick!**

This spacious detached three bedroom family home offers versatile accommodation comprising entrance hall, lounge, kitchen/dining room, conservatory, utility room, cloakroom, three bedrooms with en suite to master and family bathroom. Outside there is an enclosed rear garden and decking area. The property benefits from gas central heating, Upvc double glazing, garage and driveway. View now to avoid disappointment!

Littleport

**Extended and Rebuilt - Move Straight In!**

This detached three bedroom bungalow is situated on a generous plot and has been extended and rebuilt to a high standard by the current owner. Accommodation is spacious and includes:- kitchen/breakfast room, lounge, conservatory, three double bedrooms, modern bathroom, garage & driveway.



**NO CHAIN**

**Hitches Street Littleport**

**£50,000**



**NO CHAIN**

**The Furrow Littleport**

**£185,000**



**NO CHAIN**

**Upton Lane Littleport**

**£159,995**



**Severals Court Southery**

**£299,999**

**Ideal First Time Buy or for Investment!**

Located on the second floor of this purpose built apartment block, this property would make an ideal first time buy or investment buy. Accommodation comprises:- entrance hallway, one bedroom, bathroom and openplan kitchen/lounge/diner. The property is in need of updating.

**Popular Location**

This three storey, four bedroom home has room for the family to grow. In addition to the cloakroom and bathroom it has two en suites and a spacious lounge and dining area. There is a modern fitted kitchen with hob, extractor, and double oven. Outside there is a good sized garden and patio.

**Sought After Location**

Rarely available family home in a sought after, no through road location, within easy walking distance to the town centre. The property offers spacious accommodation comprising, entrance hall, open plan L shaped lounge/diner, conservatory, kitchen and wc. Gas central heating and Upvc double glazing.

**Quiet Cul De Sac Location**

Spacious modern bungalow situated at the end of a peaceful cul de sac approximately 5 miles equidistant to the town centre and Downham Market in the village of Southery. Accommodation includes lounge, dining room, conservatory, kitchen, family bathroom, three double bedrooms with en suite to master.



**Hale Fen Littleport**

**£138,500**



**NO CHAIN**

**The Brambles Littleport**

**£219,995**



**NEW HOMES**

**Lynn Road Littleport**

**£239,950**



**NO CHAIN**

**Longchamp Drive Ely**

**£189,995**

**Enviably Rural Views**

With views across open farmland this family home is situated in a quiet rural location with far reaching views to the front and rear. Accommodation comprises three bedrooms, bathroom, lounge, kitchen, conservatory/dining room. Large driveway, UPVC double glazing and oil central heating.

**Immaculately presented family home**

Situated in a quiet sought after cul-de-sac location, this detached family home has been extended and much improved. Well presented spacious accommodation includes large lounge, dining room, modern fitted kitchen, three bedrooms with en suite to master, family bathroom. View now!

**Ideal for the commuter!**

Built by prestigious and well known local builders, Buckingham & Sparrow, this four bedroom detached family home offers spacious versatile accommodation including kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, dining room, lounge, study, spacious en-suite to master, garage, driveway and gardens.

**No Chain!**

Three storey family home situated on a popular development in the City Of Ely and offers versatile accommodation comprising entrance hall, cloakroom, kitchen, lounge/diner, two bedrooms and family bathroom, the second floor offers an impressive Master Suite with dressing room and en-suite.



**NEW**

**Friars Way Littleport**

**£120,000**



**1 REMAINING**

**The Brambles Littleport**

**£220,000**



**Close to school!**

This family home has been well maintained and much improved by the current owners providing three bedrooms, lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, recently refitted modern bathroom, rear porch and good sized enclosed rear garden. This property benefits from Upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Excellent value so view now to avoid disappointment!

**Hurry - Only one remaining!**

Built by local well known builders, Buckingham & Sparrow, this four bedroom property offers spacious accommodation including:- modern fitted kitchen, utility room, cloakroom, dining room, lounge, large master bedroom with en suite, three further bedrooms, bathroom, garage and 69 ft garden. There is an eco friendly rainwater collection system installed to the property, filtering and recycling rainwater to use elsewhere within the home. Viewing essential!



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Modern one bedroom home located close to the city centre. Garden to the rear and allocated parking. Excellent location for local amenities and transport links.  
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One bedroom flat located in a popular area of Ely. This open plan home has one double bedroom offering built in wardrobes, the property also benefits from two allocated parking spaces.  
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**Littleport £550**

Spacious bungalow in a quiet and secluded location with superb views over open countryside. The property also benefits from garden, garage, driveway and oil central heating.  
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**Sutton £600**

Newly refurbished detached two bedroom house situated in this popular village offering spacious accommodation. The property benefits from Gas central heating, parking & garden. Good location for Cambridge, Ely & Huntingdon.  
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**Wilburton £600**

A superbly presented one bedroom terraced bungalow set within a electronic gated courtyard offering superb security. RENT IS INCLUSIVE OF WATER & HEATING.  
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**AVAILABLE NOW**  
**Ely £625**

Tucked away in a cul de sac on the Cambridge side of the City with excellent local facilities, there is gas central heating, parking and gardens. A superb modern home offering excellent value for money.

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**AVAILABLE NOW**  
**Milton £725**

Modern quarter home in a well regarded location with access to the A10, A14 & science & /business parks  
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**AVAILABLE NOW**  
**Littleport £750**

Beautifully presented detached modern family home located in this well regarded semi-rural setting just outside the well served market town of Littleport offering stunning views across open countryside. Must be seen.

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**AVAILABLE NOW**  
**Soham £795**

A superb family townhouse located on a popular new development within walking distance to the town centre with many local shops and facilities.

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**LET**  
**Ely £950**

Well presented and well proportioned 4 bedroom modern family home in a quiet cul de sac located within the catchment for St. Johns Primary School.

Available 11/01/2011  
 Unfurnished + w/goods  
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**AVAILABLE NOW**  
**Ely £995**

A superb family townhouse located on a popular development on the Western boundary of Ely offering excellent access to Cambridge, Newmarket and Kings Lynn.

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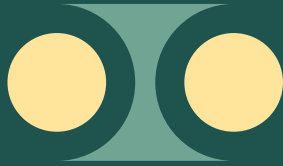
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**Ely £995**

Stunning modern home built in a period style and very centrally situated within the City within walking distance of the river and rail station. Beautiful house, must be seen.

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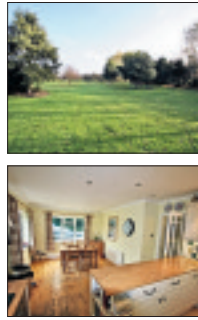


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## UPWARE

£420,000



- Spacious family home set in 1 acre of grounds
- Small hamlet location
- Master suite and bedroom 4 on first floor
- 2 further bedrooms on ground floor
- Lounge, dining room and conservatory
- Well fitted kitchen b'fast room
- Viewing essetial

## HADDENHAM

£164,950



- Modern detached bungalow
- Small development
- 2 bedrooms
- Lounge/dining room
- Fitted kitchen
- Shower room
- Manageable garden
- No upward chain

## SOHAM

£179,995



- Detached family home
- Smartly presented
- 3 bedrooms
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted bathroom
- Lounge dining room
- Gardens to front and rear
- Garage

## LT DOWNHAM

£141,950



- Smartly presented end terraced home
- Small development
- 2 double bedrooms
- Lounge/diner
- Fitted kitchen
- Fully tiled bathroom
- Low maintenance rear garden
- 2 allocated parking spaces

## UPWELL

GUIDE £230,000



- Former Methodist Chapel
- Open plan living/dining and kitchen on 1st floor
- 3 bedrooms
- En-suite to bedroom 1
- Central spiral staircase to first floor
- Compact garden and parking
- Internal viewing essential

## WITCHAM

£300,000



- Older style village house
- Popular location
- 4 bedrooms
- En-suite to bed 1
- Kitchen with AGA
- Lounge with family room
- Dining room and conservatory
- Garage/workshop

## PYMOOR

£299,950



- Substantial detached bungalow
- On approx 1/2 acre
- Spacious lounge
- 3 bedrooms
- 4th bedroom/study
- Fitted kitchen & utility
- Garage, outbuilding & workshop
- Viewing recommended

## LT THETFORD

£179,950



- Modern detached house
- Popular village location
- 3 bedrooms
- Fitted kitchen/diner
- Lounge
- Conservatory
- Enclosed private rear garden
- Garage and parking

## ELY

£244,950



- Well presented 4 bed detached home
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Conservatory
- En Suite to master bed
- Family bathroom
- Enclosed rear garden
- Garage and ample parking

## ELY

£315,000



- Mid terrace family home
- Walking distance to town
- First floor kitchen, Lounge
- En-suite to bed 1
- Ground floor 4th bedroom
- Study, utility & shower room

## MEPAL

£224,950



- Modern detached bungalow
- Popular location
- 3 bedrooms
- En-suite to bed 1
- Lounge & conservatory
- Fitted kitchen
- Enclosed rear garden
- Viewing recommended

## LT DOWNHAM

£274,950



- Mature yet modern detached bungalow
- Extended accommodation
- 3 Bedrooms
- Hall
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Study
- Fitted kitchen
- Stylish bathroom
- Generous and private rear garden

# The experts on your doorstep

LET



## MARKET STREET, ELY

1BR split level flat over 1st and 2nd floor in the City Centre, within walking distance of the River and BR Station and providing easy access to the A10/A142.

Lounge/kitchenette with cooker. Large double bedroom with decorative fireplace. Shower room. Neutral decor. Electric heating. Unfurnished.

£400 PCM



## NEWNHAM STREET, ELY

A 2BR cottage in the heart of the City Centre, within walking distance of the River and BR Station and providing easy access to A10/A142

The property offers a lounge, kitchen/diner, outside utility room, 2 bedrooms and a shower room. Double glazed throughout. Neutral decor. Electric storage heating. Low maintenance patio and gravelled area to rear. Unfurnished

£520 PCM



## LITTLEPORT

A well presented 2BR end terrace house in a quiet residential area in the Village of Littleport, the property provides easy access to local amenities, BR Station and A10.

The property is neutrally decorated throughout. Good size lounge/diner. Shower. GCH. Front and rear gardens. 1 allocated parking space. Unfurnished.

£525 PCM



## LITTLE DOWNHAM

A 3BR Bungalow in the sought after Village of Little Downham, just on the outskirts of Ely, close to local amenities and providing easy access to the A10.

The property offers kitchen, lounge/diner, 2 bedrooms with wardrobes. Shower. OCH. Delightful enclosed rear garden. Garage and driveway. Unfurnished

£595 PCM

NEW



## WITCHFORD

A modern and well presented 2BR 1st floor flat located in the popular Village of Witchford, 2 miles West of Ely and providing easy access the A10 and A142.

In good decorative order throughout. Open plan living area including integrated appliances to kitchen, 2 bathrooms. Double glazed throughout. GCH. 2 allocated parking spaces. Unfurnished.

£595 PCM



## LITTLEPORT

A well presented 3BR House located in a quiet residential area in the Village of Littleport, close to local amenities and providing easy access to the A10 and BR Station.

2 reception rooms. Bedrooms with built in wardrobes. Wooden flooring to the ground floor. GCH. Enclosed garden. Garage. Unfurnished.

£600 PCM



NEW

## COMPTON FIELDS, ELY

A beautifully presented 2BR semi-detached house in a quiet cul-de-sac in an excellent location for the Princess of Wales Hospital & providing easy access to the City Centre & A10.

The property is in good decorative order throughout & offers lounge/diner, kitchen, 2 double bedrooms and bathroom. GCH. Rear garden. Garage & drive. Unfurnished.

£650 PCM



## LYNTON DRIVE, ELY

A recently decorated and well presented 3BR semi detached house in a popular residential area just off Lynn Road. Within walking distance of the City Centre and providing easy access to the BR Station and A10.

Neutral decor. Lounge, kitchen/diner. Conservatory. 2 double bedrooms and 1 single. GCH. Front and rear garden. Driveway parking. Unfurnished

£725 PCM



## BROAD STREET, ELY

A nicely presented 4BR end terrace cottage a stones throw from the City Centre and within walking distance of the River and BR Station and providing easy access to the A142/A10.

Neutrally decorated throughout, the property offers kitchen, 2 reception rooms, 3 1st floor bedrooms and 2nd floor bedroom (attic). GCH. Enclosed rear garden. On street parking. Unfurnished.

£795 PCM



LET

## KINGS AVENUE, ELY

A modern 4BR end terrace Townhouse North East of the City Centre, in an ideal location for the Princess of Wales Hospital and providing easy access to the A10.

The property offers kitchen/diner, lounge, 4 double bedrooms & 2 bathrooms. Neutral decor. GCH. Rear garden. Garage & parking. Unfurnished.

£925 PCM



## CARDINALS WAY, ELY

A well presented & modern 3BR Townhouse in an excellent City Centre location, within walking distance to the BR Station and providing easy access to the A10 and A142.

Offering spacious living accommodation including a large kitchen/diner, study, lounge, 3 double bedrooms & 3 bathrooms. In good decorative order throughout. GCH. Enclosed garden. Garage and driveway. Unfurnished.

£1,195 PCM



## COLUMBINE ROAD, ELY

A very well presented 4BR detached house offering spacious living accommodation North West of the City Centre. The property provides easy access to the A10.

In good decorative order throughout, the property comprises of kitchen and utility, 3 reception rooms, 4 double bedrooms, 2 with ensuites and a family bathroom. GCH. Enclosed rear garden. Double garage. Unfurnished.

£1,375 PCM

# TuckerGardner

LETTING & MANAGEMENT



## SOHAM

A bright & spacious 2BR 2nd floor flat in the popular Market Town of Soham, providing easy access to Ely BR Station, A10 & A142.

Modern kitchen with all appliances, lounge/diner with laminate wood flooring, 2 good size bedrooms and a modern bathroom. Neutral décor throughout. Electric heating. 1 allocated parking space. Fully Furnished.

£575 PCM



NEW

## CAREY CLOSE, ELY

A modern two bedroom mid terrace house located North East of the City Centre, in an ideal location for The Princess of Wales Hospital and providing easy access to the A10.

The property comprises of an equipped kitchen, lounge/diner and WC to the ground floor, 2 bedrooms and a bathroom to the first. Neutral decor. Gas central heating. Rear garden & garage. Unfurnished.

£600 PCM



LET

## NEWNHAM STREET, ELY

A well presented 2BR 1st floor flat in the heart of the City Centre and a short walk to the BR station. The property also provides easy access to the A10 and A142.

Open plan living area including all white goods to kitchen. 1 double, 1 single bedroom. New carpets throughout. Shower. Neutral decor. GCH. Fully furnished.

£625 PCM



## MORTON CLOSE, ELY

A well presented 2BR mid terrace house in a quiet popular residential area just off Lynn Road, in an excellent location for Princess of Wales Hospital and providing easy access to the A10.

Kitchen, lounge/diner, 1 double, 1 single bedroom and a modern bathroom with shower. Neutral decor. GCH. Rear garden. Garage & parking. Unfurnished

£625 PCM



NEW

## WINFARTHING COURT, ELY

A modern and well presented 2BR, 1st floor flat in a popular and well regarded development, in an excellent location for the City Centre, River and BR Station and providing easy access to the A10/A142.

Open plan living area, 2 bedrooms and a bathroom. Neutral decor throughout. Electric radiator heating. 1 allocated parking space. Unfurnished

£625 PCM



NEW

## ST MARTINS WALK, ELY

A well presented 2BR semi detached house located in the City Centre and within walking distance to the BR Station. The property also provides easy access to A10 & A142.

Kitchen, lounge/diner, bathroom and 2 good size bedrooms. Neutrally decorated throughout. Electric heating, Enclosed rear garden. 2 allocated parking spaces. Unfurnished

£625 PCM



NEW PRICE

## DARWIN CLOSE, ELY

A well presented 3BR Townhouse just West of the City Centre, in an excellent location for the popular St Johns School and providing easy access to the City Centre, BR station & A10.

Kitchen, lounge, 3 good size bedrooms and family bathroom. GCH. Neutral decor and in good order throughout Rear garden. 2 Parking spaces. Unfurnished.

£725 PCM



## SUTTON

A well presented detached 4BR house situated in the popular Village of Sutton. Close to local amenities and providing easy access to the A142/A10.

Lounge opens to dining room with wooden laminate flooring. 2 double, 2 single bedrooms. Front and rear gardens. Garage and driveway. Unfurnished

£775 PCM



LET

## PYMOOR

A modern and well presented 4BR detached house located in the quiet Village of Pymoor, just 4 miles from Ely City Centre and providing easy access to the A10.

Good size lounge & kitchen/diner, 3 1st floor double bedrooms, 1 attic room, 2 bathrooms. Neutral decor. OCH. Large rear garden, double garage & parking. Unfurnished.

£795 PCM



NEW PRICE

## KINGS AVENUE, ELY

Newly decorated 3BR townhouse situated to the East of the City Centre. The property is located in a good position for the Princess of Wales Hospital and provides easy access to the A10.

Large lounge/diner, 3 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. New carpets throughout. GCH. Rear garden and garage. Unfurnished.

£800 PCM



## SUTTON

A spacious 4BR detached family home in a quiet cul-de-sac location in the Village of Sutton, overlooking fields to the rear and providing easy access to the A10/A142

Kitchen/breakfast room & utility room. 3 reception rooms. 4 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. GCH. The property benefits from new decor. Rear garden. Garage and driveway. Unfurnished

£925 PCM



## COLUMBINE ROAD, ELY

A very well presented 4BR detached house offering spacious living accommodation North West of the City Centre. The property provides easy access to the A10.

In good decorative order throughout, the property comprises of kitchen and utility, 3 reception rooms, 4 double bedrooms, 2 with en-suites and a family bathroom. GCH. Enclosed rear garden. Double garage. Unfurnished.

£1,375 PCM

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## Toyota joy at 60 years of Land Cruiser



## All will be revealed on speed cameras this year

**DRIVERS will be able to find out which speed cameras catch the most motorists under plans outlined by the Government last week.**

Local authorities and the police will have to publish full information about speed cameras under proposals announced by Road Safety Minister Mike Penning.

This could include data about accident rates at camera sites, vehicle speeds and the numbers of motorists prosecuted or offered training after offences recorded by cameras. It will be available by April 2011.

Mr Penning said this week: "Public bodies

should be accountable and if taxpayers' money is being spent on speed cameras then it is right that information about their effectiveness is available to the public.

"The proposals I have announced today will help show what impact cameras are having on accident and casualty rates and also how the police are dealing with offenders.

"This is in line with our commitment to improve transparency of government data so that the public are able to make more informed judgments about the work of local and central government."

The Department for Transport will be working with police and local authority

representatives as well as the Highways Agency to discuss the details of what should be published and how.

It is thought that one camera on the M11 near east London has produced fines of more than £2 million over five years and that other camera sites have also resulted in fines of many thousands of pounds a year.

The AA's head of road safety, Andrew Howard, told the Daily Telegraph: "We have always supported transparency as a way of making cameras publicly acceptable."

Robert Gifford, executive director of the Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety, told the

Telegraph: "I am completely comfortable with this.

"It is the sort of things better (camera/safety) partnerships will have been doing."

Neil Greig, director of policy and research at the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM), said: "We welcome any move to improve the transparency of speed camera operations.

"A recent IAM survey showed that, while speed cameras overall had a 70 per cent approval rating, nearly half of respondents believed revenue generation through fines was the main motive behind their installation.

"More transparent information that clearly

links speed cameras to fewer deaths and serious injuries will be an excellent way of persuading the doubters that they do deliver."

Philip Gomm, a spokesman for the RAC Foundation, said: "Road safety policy should be based on facts and analysis, not rumour and headlines. Where cameras are doing a good job then they should be kept. If others are badly sited or can be proved to be about raising money then they should be turned off.

"What we don't want is a knee-jerk, blanket policy of decommissioning just because someone thinks it is a good idea without the evidence to support the move."

## Delight for Toyota

WHETHER it's due to the weather, or simply customers wishing to own one of the most robust 4x4 vehicles on the road, sales of both Land Cruiser and Land Cruiser V8 are up 77 per cent and 120 per cent respectively over the same period last year.

Celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2011 the Land Cruiser is one of Toyota's most iconic vehicles with a legendary reputation for toughness and reliability and a proven track record to perform in the most severe environments from deserts and jungles to arctic wastes.

With more than six million units sold since launch, Land Cruiser is available in more than 140 territories and manufactured in nine plants in five countries.

In the UK, Land Cruiser is available in three grades, using a 3.0-litre D-4D diesel engine, 5-speed automatic transmission

and provides user-friendly advanced technologies for handling, safety and driver guidance. This includes Multi-Terrain Select system, Crawl Control and Multi-Terrain Monitors.

Its larger stable mate, the Land Cruiser V8, uses Toyota's most powerful diesel engine, a 4.5-litre D-4D providing 282bhp and 650Nm of torque, through a six-speed automatic transmission with sequential manual gear change. Available in one luxury specification, features also include multi-terrain ABS optimising brake control to suit driving conditions, the world's first 4-wheel Active height Control and Adaptive Variable Suspension.

Both vehicles have the ability to seat seven and are covered by a comprehensive manufacturer five-year, 100,000 mile warranty.

Cambridge Toyota is on 08447 700582.

Helping you find your car - visit [www.elyweeklynews.co.uk/drive](http://www.elyweeklynews.co.uk/drive)



Crown Garage: Hitting the ground running in 2011.

# Crown jewels revealed for open weekend

THE team at Crown Garage in Soham are hitting the ground running this year by holding a '75 Anniversary Family Open Weekend' on Saturday, 15

## ADVERTISING FEATURE

and Sunday, 16 January.

Everyone is invited to this celebration event and there will be lots to entertain and interest you. The weekend features an exhibition of the development of future technologies including hydrogen cars and solar panel systems and the terrific new Honda Jazz Hybrid will also be showcased.

There will be a thrilling Honda racing simulator ride to get the adrenaline pumping and Honda's stylish, award-winning CR-Z, the world's first hybrid sports coupe, will be taking pride in the showroom. For motor sport fans Honda's Championship Touring car will be on display and for those interested in the history of motoring Crown Garage will be featuring a collection of classic cars from the past.

Back to the present day and the real stars of the show are, of course, Honda's latest products, including Honda's newest cars, motorcycles, scooters, quad bikes, marine outboard engines and Honda power tools and equipment. Ideal for the winter season, Honda's British-built CR-V will also be showcased. It's a class leader in the compact 4x4 sector of the market. On top of all this, tasty refreshments will be served throughout the weekend, and you'll find generous savings off sale prices right across the board on selected used cars on both days.

Crown Garage dealer principal, Andrew Harrison, says: "We're looking forward to seeing customers old and new at our '75th Anniversary Family Weekend Open Weekend' where Honda's latest 2011 car range can be viewed in our showroom. The new registration sales period is not far away and this is an excellent opportunity to check out Honda's latest models and the fantastic deals available.

Our Sales Director, Derek Fisher, together with our

friendly sales team will be on hand to assist with any enquiries. They will be pleased to book your test drive "on the day of your visit or later, at time and date convenient to you. You'll not find any pressure to purchase. However, should you be interested in buying, we have a range of competitively priced packages that can be tailored to match your exact financial needs. Part exchange deals are always welcome here too."

Crown Garage is entering its 75th year in business and the company has been owned by the same family over the entire time of its existence. While many have been finding market conditions difficult, Crown Garage continues to trade healthily. The firm's dedication to customer service has been key to this ongoing success while the strength Honda's excellent product range has also played its part. For the past eight years the dealership has achieved award-winning status in Honda's own CSI surveys, placing Crown Garage close to the top of the UK dealer network for customer satisfaction.

Crown Garage offers customers a full sales and support package for their Honda vehicles. Honda parts and accessories can be sourced and supplied and there is a comprehensive aftersales service available. Fully qualified, Honda-trained technicians use the latest diagnostic equipment and they'll ensure that your vehicle always receives the very best of care and attention. Courtesy cars are available by prior arrangement and for those customers living locally, a pickup and delivery service is also available from home or work.

With all this in mind why not call into Crown Garage during their '75th Anniversary Family Weekend Open Weekend' on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th January, when there's something to entertain all members of your family. Take a look at the great selection of cars, motorcycles, tools, quad bikes and services they have on offer. You can find Crown Garage at 1-5 High Street in Soham or, for further information, telephone them on (01353) 720 779. Alternatively visit their website at [www.crowngarage-honda.co.uk](http://www.crowngarage-honda.co.uk).

\* Test drives are subject to terms and conditions



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Fuel consumption figures for the Civic range in mpg (l/100km): Urban 22.2 - 43.5 (12.7 - 6.5), Extra Urban 40.4 - 65.7 (7.0 - 4.3), Combined 31.0 - 55.4 (9.1 - 5.1). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 215 - 132 g/km. Price Point: £12,995 price point applies to Civic 1.4 Type S Manual, £13,995 price point applies to Civic 1.4 SE Manual, £14,995 applies to Civic 1.4 Si Manual and £15,995 applies to Civic 1.8 Si Manual. All price points exclude metallic paint (£430 extra). Offers valid on new retail cars registered from 1 January to 31 January 2011. Offers applicable at participating Dealers and are at the Promoter's absolute discretion. Subject to model, colour and stock availability, certain variants may be limited. **Honda Hire Purchase (HP):** Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe PLC, 470 London Rd, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8QY. **Servicing:** 3 years complimentary servicing or 37,500 miles, whichever comes first, and includes a maximum of 3 services. Complimentary servicing covers the manufacturer's scheduled servicing only. These offers may not be used in conjunction with any other January 2011 offer.



Crown Garage: You're sure of a warm welcome.

# Affordable luxury is key to new car success

WHEN the country is suffering because of the economy the motor industry also feels the pain, but interesting and exciting new cars have meant there has been plenty to cheer about amid the gloom.

The car-buying public seem to have lost none of their enthusiasm for new metal and most crucially new ideas.

The year began with a piece of affordable luxury in the shape of Citroën's DS3.

The stylish design inside and out combined with all the practicality that you could expect from a supermini to give it the edge over the other style

icons in the class.

At the other end of the scale came Audi's A8 – the latest high-tech luxury offering. This time it combined understated looks with more comfort and gadgets than ever before – guaranteeing it a place at red carpet events for years to come.

Legendary British manufacturer Aston Martin also went down the four-door route with its Rapide, and managed to add genuine space for four adults alongside all the glamour and performance expected from the brand.

Meanwhile, those on a smaller budget could turn to the Peugeot RCZ – which managed to deliver supercar looks for just a fraction

of the price.

But it was green cars that really made the headlines this year, and although Tesla's Roadster kept the enthusiasts happy with its performance, the Nissan Leaf stole the show by being the first electric car to reach full scale production.

First customers in the UK won't get them for another couple of months, but Nissan was brave in being the first to market. Furthermore the quality and the usability are testament to the hard work involved.

Electric cars may still be in relative infancy, but if a car as good as the Leaf is just the starting point then we will definitely see many more on our roads in 2011.



THE PEUGEOT RCZ: Supercar looks for a fraction of the price.



The Toyota Hilux: Has successfully completed yet another extraordinary journey.

## Toyota's Hilux proves to be all but unstoppable as it overcomes the rigours of the South Pole

YOU think it's cold round here, but it got to minus 56 on a recent expedition to the South Pole – and four Toyota Hiluxes proved more than equal to the task.

The unstoppable Hilux has successfully completed yet another extraordinary journey, travelling across the coldest, most hostile environment in the world, Antarctica, to reach the South Pole.

Between November 10 and December 5, four Hiluxes transported expedition members of the Indian National Centre for

Antarctic and Ocean Research (NCAOR) – studying snow chemistry, the glacial landscapes and the bedrock hidden beneath the ice – on a 4,600 km round trip from Novo Air Base to the South Pole, and safely back.

The four Hilux vehicles were adapted by Icelandic Toyota 4x4 conversion specialists, Arctic Trucks, for the month-long expedition.

Faced with extreme weather, average temperatures of below -40C and troughs of -56C, altitudes of 3,400m and the

most brutal driving environment imaginable, NCAOR picked the Hilux for three reasons.

Firstly, given the extreme conditions, it has proven very low comparable fuel consumption of 5.65mpg. Even with the use of less energy-efficient Jet 1A fuel, the vehicle engine running 24/7 and running extra heating system constantly on, this figure is five to eight times lower than that achieved by tracked vehicles. This significantly reduces both transported fuel loads and fuel costs (one

barrel of oil in Antarctica can cost \$10,000). With this fuel efficiency, the expedition could rely on only one refuelling point, established some 1,500 km from the starting point – Maitri Antarctica station.

Secondly, the Hilux has a uniquely high load carrying capacity. It combines a low unladen weight of just 2.2 tons with a payload capacity of 1.5 tons and a towing capacity of 3 tons.

Thirdly, this expedition maintained a fast average speed.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 16.5 (17.1) – 61.4 (4.6), Extra-urban: 32.8 (8.6) – 88.3 (3.2), Combined: 24.2 (11.7) – 76.3 (3.7). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 274 – 98g/km.

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 2003 (03) **Ford Streeta**, soft top cabriolet, leather, CD, air con, finished in red, 66,000 miles, 1 owner, full history ..... £3,495  
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 2003 (03) **Peugeot 206 LX 1360cc Petrol**, climate control, CD player, alloys ..... **SOLD**  
 2000 (X) **Vauxhall Astra 1400 LS**, petrol, 2 owners, good history ..... **SOLD**

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 2007 (07) **Peugeot Expert HDi SWB New Shape Twin Side Loading Doors**, red, one owner only 39,000 miles ..... £6,495 + VAT  
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## » Football



## City claim crown and now look to defending title

ELY City (above) have been crowned champions of the Ely Sunday Evening League in the Soccersixes six-a-side competition held at the city's hockey club.

With the Soccersixes new season set to start in January, new teams of all abilities are being urged to come forward to put up a challenge to the

newly crowned champions.

Soccersixes' League manager Richard Rollason said: "Soccersixes are pleased that Ely City held their own this season and picked up the title.

"They are now looking forward to another season with us."

He added "We are now looking for

new teams to come forward to challenge Ely City to the title in the new season which starts on Sunday, January 9."

Anyone wishing to get involved in the Ely Soccersixes can do so by contacting Rollason on 07929 241693 or by registering online at [www.soccersixes.net](http://www.soccersixes.net)

## » Speedway

## Fen Tigers' fans receive good tidings

SUPPORTERS of Mildenhall Fen Tigers have been given their most positive news for five months with a prospective new owner reaching an agreement with stadium boss Dave Coventry.

Both Coventry and the potential buyer, who wishes to remain anonymous at this stage, confirmed they had verbally agreed a deal to return the Tigers to the West Row circuit this year following their final closure last summer. Coventry said: "We have had very positive talks for a while and have worked out a deal.

"There are some final complications to sort out but things are looking good. "This person is very enthusiastic and has

a good approach to getting things done.

"The situation at Mildenhall is slightly unique as, while the rent may be higher than some other tracks, there is very little else to buy. All the equipment is here." The rental figure, believed to be £1,300 per meeting, appeared to be a stumbling block for interested buyers, so the fact a deal has been reached is promising news. It is hoped the final negotiations, involving the British Speedway Promoters' Association, can be completed soon so the probable new promoter can attend the annual conference of the National League next week.

## » Table tennis

# Tony a hero in Soham's draw

SOHAM and Fulbourn II could not be separated at the end of a tense encounter in the Ely & District League, Division One.

Fulbourn's Ju Young and Marc Meunier were both on good form as they defeated the hosts' Jon Audus and Martyn Heyes, but they were unable to overcome the consistent play of Tony Everitt, who scored a maximum for the home team.

Audus and Heyes added to the home team's tally with victories over Jon Chapman, but Young and Meunier held their nerve in the doubles to take victory over Everitt and Chapman to secure a well-earned draw.

Impington II continue to struggle, despite Colin Adams coming away from Elsworth with good wins against Joe Thorogood and Brian Freer. Roger Fensom secured another maximum to seal an 8-2 win.

Comrades III trounced Fulbourn IV 8-2 in Division Two. Martyn Logan, Mick Foreman and Marc Sulman were all on good form.

The league has reached its halfway stage with four players still averaging 100 per cent



in Division One – Martin Freeland (Soham), Steve Trevannion (Fulbourn II), Kevin Gray (Comrades) and Fulbourn's Martin Gray (above).

Freeland has played in seven matches, Trevannion in four and Martin Gray and Kevin Gray in three each.

In Division Two, Barry Sore and Adam Speed (both Comrades II) and Alan Chambers (Comrades III) all have 100 per cent records.

There is only one player with 100 per cent in Division Three – St George's Juan Rodriguez – but he has played only two matches.

Teams from divisions two and three battled it out in the first round of the 21-Up Handicap Knock-out competition.

Countess romped to an 8-1 win over Haddenham IV, but a much closer contest saw Haddenham III beat Ellesmere 5-4, with Ben Brown beating David Wiseman in the deciding match.

Juan Mantilla won three matches as St George's beat Fulbourn IV 6-3. He was backed up by Amr Abdelaal, who won two.

Fulbourn VI had better fortune, beating Comrades III 6-3, and there was more misery for Comrades V as they lost 5-4 to Ely II.

Slawek Pekala won the decider, beating Pete Claringbold. Andy Manning's two wins had given the Comrades hope, but Greg Ozog enjoyed two wins to keep Ely on top.

**Second-round draw:** Fulbourn V v St George's, Countess v Haddenham III, Elsworth II v Fulbourn III, Ely II v Fulbourn VI.

**Plate draw:** Comrades III v Comrades II, Haddenham IV v Ellesmere, Comrades V v Gazeley II, Comrades IV v Fulbourn IV.

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» **Football:** Latest news from the Unwin Ground and Julius Martin Lane

# Greens hit by leaders' goal blitz

**Hitchin Town 9  
Soham Town Rangers 1**  
ZAMARETTO LEAGUE, DIVISION ONE CENTRAL

ANDY Coleman was sent off as Soham suffered a thrashing at the hands of runaway leaders Hitchin on Monday.

The player-assistant manager received his second caution two minutes before half time in the Greens' first taste of action since December 11.

He was dismissed after allegedly berating the referee, although Coleman insisted he was shouting at one of his own players.

Hitchin made it 3-0 moments later, but Dubi Ogbonna reduced the arrears early in the second period.

But that was the only bright spot for the Greens, who were still without French striker Franck Atangana because of an ankle injury.

Despite battling displays from Michael Simpson, Scott Carter and Luke Hipwell, the visitors were unable to compete and the runaway table-toppers cruised to an emphatic win.

"Hitchin are top of the league and a good side, but we didn't do ourselves any favours," said Coleman.

"It was going to be a hard game with 11 men, let alone 10.

"They dictated the game after Dubi scored, and they tore us apart, to be fair. We found it hard to cope and it was a bad day at the office."

Despite Tuesday's setback, Greens' manager Ian Benjamin wants Soham to secure their Zamaretto League status in the second half of the season without the need for a helping hand from Atherstone Town.

The Warwickshire club have written to league officials stating their intention to resign from the league at the end of the season and play in the Midland Alliance instead, because of the current economic climate.

Soham are currently anchored in the relegation zone, but manager Benjamin is urging his



Marching orders: Andy Coleman, who was sent off for two bookable offences.

team to save themselves from relegation, rather than relying on one side fewer potentially now facing the drop.

"I'm hoping we won't be in a situation where we have to worry about all that," said Benjamin.

"We were in a similar position this time last year

and I'm hoping we can get out of it again."

Monday's bad result sees Benjamin's team at the foot of the table and in urgent need of picking up points.

They get their first chance to do so on Saturday when mid-table Marlow are the scheduled visitors to Julius Martin Lane (3pm).

## Ely claim win after Chadwick dismissal

**Ely City 2 Newmarket Tn 1**  
RIDGEONS LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION

RICHARD Chadwick was sent off in the second half, but Ely still secured a 2-1 victory over Newmarket at the Unwin Ground on Monday in their first match since December 11.

The attacker was dismissed for an alleged stamp on an opponent, but the visitors were unable to make their numerical advantage count in their search for an equaliser.

Dave Smith rounded off a flowing four-man move to put the Robins ahead, and Sam Parkinson made it 2-0 with a powerful free kick. Stephen Bell pulled one back before Chadwick saw red.

Robins' manager Alan Alsop said: "We deserved it as we played really, really well.

"We weathered their pressure in the second half and got the second goal.

"Richard said he put his foot out while he was falling to stop himself and couldn't help standing on their lad's back.

"It wasn't backs against the wall after that, because I don't think they really hurt us. We regrouped and comfortably saw the game out.

"I was pleased with Michael Ebanks-Blake's performance on his debut up front. He tired towards the end, but he did very well."

The Robins are back in Ridgeons League, Premier Division action on Saturday when they journey to Essex to face Stanway Rovers, who are currently one place below them in the table, but with games in hand. Kick-off is at 3pm.



Red-carded: Ely's Richard Chadwick, who received his marching orders.



Promising: Michael Ebanks-Blake, who did well up front for Ely on his debut.

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